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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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AN ECONOMIC SURVEY

OF THE

BABY CHICK HATCHERY INDUSTRY

ISSUED MAY 1, 1935



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

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Ву

E. L. WARREN

Marketing Specialist

and

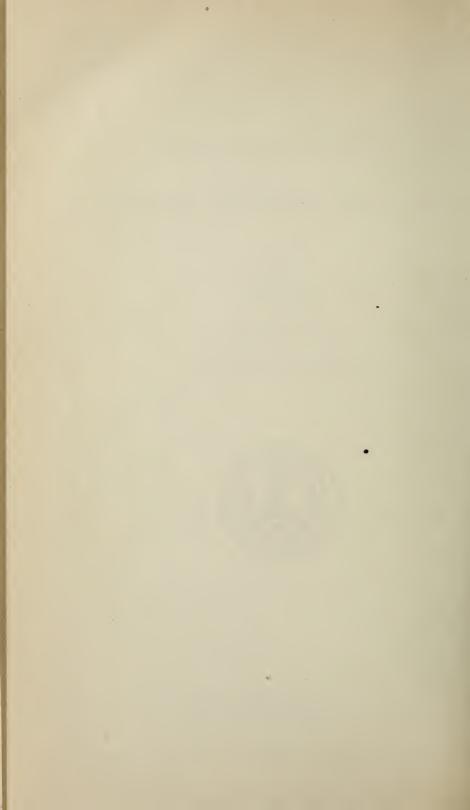
M. T. WERMEL

Assistant Agricultural Economist

Poultry Section, Division of Livestock and Feed Grains Agricultural Adjustment Administration



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AN ECONOMIC SURVEY OF THE BABY CHICK HATCHERY INDUSTRY

INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

Within the last quarter of a century, the hatchery industry has advanced to a prominent position in American agriculture. Modern methods of poultry management have made the poultry raiser increasingly more dependent upon hatcheries for his supply of baby chicks. Consequently, the development and economic status of the hatchery industry has become of great importance to poultrymen.

This important industry, following a wave of mushroomlike growth just before the depression of 1929, was very adversely affected by the economic crisis. Many thousands of chicks, for which there was no active demand, were hatched each month during the hatching season. This condition gave rise to all the common evils of cut-throat competition, accompanied by unscrupulously misleading advertising. As a result of frantic efforts to meet this cut-throat competition, prices were slashed and the quality of chicks lowered. Poultry producers purchasing chicks from hatcheries were frequently deceived and defrauded.

The International Baby Chick Association, a trade organization of hatcheries in the United States, and the Northeastern Poultry Producers Council, recognizing the necessity for improving existing conditions in the industry, took advantage of the opportunity which was presented by the National Industrial Recovery Act to sponsor a code of fair competition which was designed, among other things, to eliminate the existing unfair competitive practices. This code, officially known as the Code of Fair Competition for the Commercial and Breeder Hatchery Industry, was signed by the President of the United States on December 27, 1933, and became a law on January 1, 1934.

In accordance with an Executive order regarding codes for agricultural industries, the National Industrial Recovery Administration was charged in general with the responsibility of administering those sections of the code dealing with labor provisions, while the Agricultural Adjustment Administration was made responsible for the administration of the unfair trade practice provisions. In administering this code there arose many difficulties which could not be dealt with adequately because of insufficient factual information concerning the hatchery industry and its operations.

This study was undertaken with the object of obtaining such economic information concerning the hatchery industry, and its relation to the poultry industry as a whole, as would be useful to the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in its efforts to restore poultry and egg prices to parity. Accurate information on the industry would be of considerable value in the enforcement of the various

provisions contained in the code and would aid in determining the effect of the code on the interests of egg and poultry producers. Furthermore, information obtained in the study should be of interest and value to individual hatchery operators. It should enable them to compare their costs of operation with average costs for similar hatcheries, and the operations of their business with comparable hatcheries and the industry as a whole. Thus it would assist them in improving their business methods. Still more important, it was believed that the information obtained from this study would help to guide chick buyers in making more satisfactory purchases of hatchery products.

SCOPE OF STUDY

The mailing list of the National Commercial and Breeder Hatchery Coordinating Committee, as of July 1, 1934, contained the names of 13,405 members of the hatchery industry. Of this number, 1,658 were listed as dealers and 342 did not state their incubator capacity. Detailed analysis of this study was therefore based on the remaining 11,405 hatcheries listed by the coordinating committee which showed the egg setting capacity of their incubators. The section of the study which deals with the geographical distribution of the hatchery industry includes, without exception, all of these 11,405 establishments.

The study of the interstate character of the industry was based on questionnaires 1 which were sent to every sixth hatchery included in the list. Replies were received from 717 firms which represents 30.5 percent of the hatcheries to which questionnaires were sent. Five hundred and ninety-five replies, or 25.3 percent, were found usable in the sense that they contained adequate data. All calculations of the extent of interstate traffic in baby chicks were based on these 595

usable replies.

The information relating to functions of hatcheries, hatching efficiency, cost of hatching, and profits from hatching operations was based on another questionnaire 2 which was mailed to all the hatcheries on the mailing list. Approximately 34 percent of all the hatcheries to which questionnaires were sent replied to the request for information concerning their operations during the 1934 season. A larger percentage of replies was received from the smaller hatcheries than from the larger ones. However, the reports from the larger hatcheries were much more complete than those from the smaller ones. On the whole, 17.7 percent of the reports submitted were found to be usable. This sample represents 683 hatcheries or 6 percent of all firms listed on the mailing list.

LIMITATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS

While the scope of this study is more comprehensive than that of any which have been made previously, there are necessarily several limitations to the figures reported and some assumptions which it has been necessary to make. One of the easily apparent limitations, for instance, is that some hatcheries operating in the United States were not included in the list of the coordinating committee. However, it is estimated that the number of hatcheries so excluded was very small. At any rate, this mailing list represented the best available count of hatcheries and their capacities in the United States.

¹ Appendix, Exhibit A, page 58. ² Appendix, Exhibit B, page 60.

Some of the other important limitations can be briefly summarized

as follows:

1. It cannot be definitely said that the figures shown in this report are truly representative of all hatcheries. Every effort has been made to make the sample of reports as representative of existing conditions as possible. However, it is possible that those hatcheries which replied to the questions may have been operating under somewhat different conditions than some of the hatcheries which did not furnish any replies. Another possibility is that by selecting for analysis only usable replies, that is, more or less complete reports, a bias might have been introduced in favor of the more efficient hatcheries. hatcheries are not only more likely to be in a position to have complete records, but their costs of operation may also be rather lower than the

2. The small proportion of hatcheries which furnished usable replies is an indication of inadequate accounting records in the industry generally. Every effort was made to use only reports that were fairly accurate and complete, yet it is evident that some of the figures may still have contained error. For example, reports from small hatcheries may not have been as complete and accurate as those from larger ones. Many small operators who did not keep complete records may have forgotten about incidental items of expense such as telephone, postage, and additional family labor. Many hatcheries have difficulty in allocating expenses to their hatchery operations. In the case of hatcheries where the incubators are maintained in the basement of the home, for example, it is questionable what proportion of the rent

should be charged to hatchery operations.

3. Although the commercial hatchery differs considerably in its type of operations from a breeder hatchery, the same report forms were submitted to all hatcheries. The forms used in this study were better adapted for commercial than for breeder hatcheries. The principal distinction between the two is that the commercial hatchery buys the eggs required for setting from other egg producers, and the breeder hatchery uses eggs supplied by its own flocks. To make it possible for both types of hatcheries to use the same form, the breeder hatcheries were asked to charge against their costs of operation the local market price of eggs supplied by their own flocks including

whatever premiums such eggs may have commanded.

4. Frequently, hatcheries are operated as adjuncts to poultry farms and, in some cases, the owners are also engaged in other business activities. In such cases, it is often practically impossible for the owner to determine what part of his expenses should be charged against hatchery operations. Hence there may be a tendency to charge all or nearly all of the overhead expenses against the seemingly more important phase of his business.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the preparation of this study, very valuable assistance was received from many colleagues in the Department of Agriculture and from members of the National Commercial and Breeder Hatchery Coordinating Committee.

The tedious work of editing the reports and supervising the tabulation of questionnaires was undertaken by Mrs. Pauline Whoolery of the Poultry Section, Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

1. Hatcheries operate in every State of the Union, but the heaviest concentration of hatchery capacity exists in the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, and Minnesota. In these States are located 33.5 percent of all the hatcheries in the United States. Their combined capacity is 43.8 percent of the total incubator capacity

in the country.

2. Hatching capacity is unevenly distributed among the States. It is estimated that during the 1934 season hatcheries in some States produced over 140 chicks for every 100 chickens raised on farms, and in other States, less than 10. It appears that about half of all the chickens raised on farms in the United States are hatched by farmers themselves. It must be realized, of course, that the practice of hatching some chickens on farms will probably always continue. At the present time there is no evidence to indicate that there is need for any material expansion of commercial incubator capacity. However, there seem to be plentiful opportunities for efficient, wideawake hatcherymen to develop potential new business without resorting to unscrupulous methods of competition.

3. For the country as a whole, 683 hatcheries obtained 81.2 percent of their total income from the sale of baby chicks, and 18.8 percent from all other activities such as custom hatching for hire, brooding chicks and selling them started, dealing in chicks purchased from other hatcheries, and selling hatching eggs, poultry feed, and various poultry

supplies.

4. This study indicates that the average hatchability for the 683 hatcheries selected was 64.4 percent and that the average rate of capacity utilization was 2.7. It may be, however, that these figures are somewhat higher than the actual average hatchability and rate of capacity utilization because the sample may not be entirely representative of actual conditions existing among the 11,405 hatcheries. However, when similar averages were computed for a sample of 1,263 hatcheries, adding 580 other hatcheries to the original 683, these averages were hardly changed. For the 1,263 hatcheries, the average hatchability was 63.9 percent and the average rate of capacity utilization was 2.6. Many hatcheries, in fact, have a much lower percent of hatchability and rate of capacity utilization than the stated averages since there is a very wide range from hatcheries with the lowest to the ones with the highest percent of hatchability and rate of capacity utilization.

5. The percentage of hatchability and the rate of utilization of setting capacity are exceedingly important as factors determining the total cost of producing chicks. It would seem, therefore, that there are good possibilities for many hatcherymen to increase their efficiency by striving to obtain the highest possible number of chicks for every 100 eggs set, and by planning their business in such a manner that they will use the capacity of their incubators to the best possible

advantage.

6. While cost reports were received from approximately 4,000 hatcheries, only 683 of them contained complete and accurate enough information to warrant their use. This clearly indicates the need for more adequate cost records in the hatchery industry.

In this connection, Secretary Wallace has written:

Undoubtedly every individual should know his cost as accurately as possible. If he does not know it, he cannot know whether he is going ahead or falling behind. * * * It is wise for the individual business man and the individual farmer to hold up before his eyes the motto, "Know your costs." He must of necessity keep continually posted on his own individual competitive ability.

7. The most significant conclusion to which this analysis of hatchery production costs points is that the cost of producing chicks varies widely among the hatcheries. During the 1934 season, some hatcheries actually produced chicks at a cost of somewhat less than \$4.50 per 100, while others had costs exceeding \$14. This variation in costs cannot be completely explained either by the size or location of Therefore, while it is possible to compute a mathethe hatcheries. matical average of costs for hatcheries in different sections and of different sizes, as well as for the country as a whole, and while such averages may be of considerable value for the purpose of comparing the efficiency of one hatchery with that of others, yet the limitations of such average costs must be clearly realized at all times.

8. This extreme variability of costs is particularly important when one considers the demands from different quarters for fixed prices based upon average costs of production. It clearly indicates the inherent difficulty involved in arriving at any fixed price which would be equitable to thousands of hatcheries operating under widely dissimilar conditions. To quote Secretary Wallace again:

No one has a divine right to cost of production. Moreover, cost of production is a false guide to prices over any long period of time. The true guide to prices is a concept based on that state of balance or ratios which make it possible for the economic organism to keep functioning with the least disturbance possible.

Cost of production looks too much toward the past. When an industry has been making large profits, it generally begins to pay its workers more and to spend money on improvements. In a new industry rapidly expanding, this may result in a decreasing cost of production. But after a time there is a tendency for cost of production to rise, simply because of the prosperity of the immediate past. In other words, if cost of production were recognized legally, there would be a tend-

ency toward an ever ascending spiral of prices raised by increasing overhead.

* * This tendency of cost of production to breed on itself makes it an exceedingly poor guide, from the standpoint of fixing prices, or balancing the

national business structure.4

9. Egg cost represents from less than 30 to more than 60 percent of the total cost of producing chicks in different hatcheries. cost per chick hatched varies with the price level of eggs in the different regions, the premium paid for eggs over current market price, and the hatchability of the eggs. The premium, to a large extent, represents the quality of eggs used and is, in turn, definitely reflected in the quality of chicks produced. Since the premiums paid for hatching eggs vary from nothing to as much as 35 cents per dozen, thus indicating a wide variation in the quality of chicks sold, it would be very surprising if some hatcheries did not have a considerably higher cost of producing chicks than others.

10. No systematic collection of baby chick prices has ever been undertaken by any State or Federal agency. As a result, there are no satisfactory historical price series available anywhere. Without such series, it has been impossible to make any analysis of the relationship between the supply and the price of baby chicks. Logically, it would

Henry A. Wallace, New Frontiers, ch. X, pp. 103-104.
 Ibid., ch. X, p. 103-104.

seem that there ought to be a very definite relationship between the number of chicks hatched and the price of chicks, and that as the price of baby chicks became very high, the demand for them would decrease materially. This follows from the fact that a poultry raiser, who is the ultimate consumer of baby chicks, almost always has the alternative of hatching such chicks as he may need himself, either by means of small, inexpensive incubators, or without the aid of artificial incubation at all. Therefore, if the price of hatchery-produced chicks, taking the quality factor into consideration, became considerably higher than the cost of hatching chicks on the farm, it would seem that the demand for hatchery chicks would drop. The information which would be furnished by a study of the relationship between supply and demand of baby chicks and prices would be exceedingly valuable to the industry.

11. The analysis of reports on which this survey is based indicates that during the 1934 season nine-tenths of all the hatcheries made at

least some profit on their operations.

THE DEVELOPMENT AND PRESENT CHARACTER OF THE HATCHING INDUSTRY

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDUSTRY

Commercial hatching of chicks in the United States dates back to the 1880's. There were a number of reasons for its development at that time. Generally speaking, it rode in on the crest of a wave of general industrialization and mechanization of agriculture which began to develop in the middle eighties in response to a growing demand for agricultural products from abroad, and in order to feed a growing industrial population at home.

This period coincided with the growth of cities, with its resulting concentration of urban population, and the development of economical means of transportation. New and greater markets for poultry products became available, while economical transportation made it possible to move these products from the farms to the new markets

and to the seaboard for shipment abroad.

All these factors combined made specialized poultry production profitable, and the tendency to abandon diversification in favor of concentrated and specialized production became more and more

pronounced.

These tendencies explain why new and improved types of incubators began to appear on the market around the eighties. These incubators were designed to make commercial hatching possible, now that it was economically practical. The early incubators were crude fore-runners of the present type of incubators. Gradually improvements were introduced making possible automatic and exact regulation of heat, humidity, and oxygen supply, permitting adaptability of modern incubators to a wide variety of conditions, and at the same time combining these features with simplicity and durability.

In the early nineties, commercial advertisements began to appear in poultry publications offering to deliver quantities of young chicks

"distance no objection" at from 6 to 10 cents each.

Hatching operations, however, continued on a small scale until the appearance of mammoth incubators in 1908 and 1909. The appearance of these incubators resulted in a substantial increase in the

number of chicks hatched commercially, thus marking another step in the forward march of artificial incubation. The admission of baby chicks to the mails in 1918 afforded another significant stimulation

to the baby chick hatchery industry.

The most rapid period of expansion, however, occurred during the post-war years. Incubators with a capacity of 40,000 eggs, and yet so small and compact that they occupied a floor space of only 10 by 13 feet, began to be marketed in 1922. These were water-heated mechanisms which represented an improvement over the older type of small lamp- or air-heated incubators. Shortly after the appearance of these mammoth 40,000-egg incubators, the electrically-heated mechanisms made their commercial appearance. From that time on

progress and expansion were rapid.

It is estimated that there are approximately 12,000 hatcheries, exclusive of dealers, in the United States at the present time. Because of the rapid expansion of the industry and the numerous improvements in type and construction of incubators which came in rapid succession, the industry has a very heterogeneous character. There are hatcheries equipped with only one lamp-type incubator of a very small capacity, often under a thousand eggs. Such hatcheries are still very numerous, although they are responsible for only a very small percentage of all chicks hatched in the country. At the other extreme, there are veritable chick factories equipped with the most modern types of electrically-heated incubators and having a capacity of a million or more eggs. Such hatcheries indeed are very few in number but their economic importance is of great significance. Between these two extremes there are thousands of other hatcheries with capacities ranging from over a thousand to several hundred thousand eggs equipped with most divergent types of incubators from the old lamp type to the most modern electrically-controlled machine. Together these hatcheries form the American hatchery industry.

In addition to these variations in size and type of equipment, there are also important differences due to climatic conditions and types of hatchery operation. It is only natural, then, that there should be a wide variation in the costs of production among such widely different types of hatcheries. For this reason, in attempting to study hatchery production costs, it is obviously essential to make a sharp differentiation on the basis of physical capacity and geographical location.

TYPES OF HATCHERY BUSINESS

THE COMMERCIAL HATCHERY

Generally speaking, it is possible to separate the many hatcheries into four more or less distinct types. In the first place, there is the commercial hatchery. The character of this type of hatchery, is defined by the code, as "* * any person operating or controlling incubator equipment who produces 95 percent or more of the 'chicks', 'baby ducklings', 'turkey poults', 'started chicks, ducklings, or turkey poults' which he or it advertises or sells." The commercial hatchery as a rule buys its eggs from poultry producers at a stipulated price above local egg market quotations. In many instances such a hatchery has a very direct interest in the flocks of the

⁵ Amended Code of Fair Competition for the Commercial and Breeder Hatchery Industry, effective Jan. 16, 1935, p. 8.

producer whose eggs it buys, and frequently spends considerable sums of money on flock improvement work and disease prevention.

THE BREEDER HATCHERY

The second type of hatchery may be termed the breeder hatchery. This is defined by the code as a hatchery which owns breeding flocks and which produces and sells chicks, ducklings, and poults only from flocks owned by itself. The breeder hatchery often specializes in the production of particular breeds and strains of chicks, ducklings, or poults and for this reason usually pays extremely careful attention to the condition of its flocks.

THE COMMERCIAL HATCHERY AND DEALER

There are also many hatcheries which own and operate their own equipment but which, in addition to the chicks hatched by their own equipment, also buy chicks from other hatcheries for resale. The code defines such a hatchery as a "commercial hatchery and dealer", and indicates that in this category are included all hatcheries which produce more than 51 percent and less than 95 percent of their total production with their own equipment.

THE DEALER

Finally, there is the dealer. The dealer does not necessarily engage merely in the buying or selling of chicks, but may also own his own incubator equipment and may hatch some chicks himself. He may hatch such chicks either from eggs produced by his own flocks or from eggs purchased in the market as long as he hatches less than 51 percent of the total number of chicks sold.

Any of these four types of hatcheries may perform any one of the several functions generally performed by hatcheries. These func-

tions, however, will be discussed in a later section.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE HATCHERY INDUSTRY

It was pointed out in the introduction that all analysis in this section on the geographical distribution of the hatchery industry was based on 11,405 hatcheries which were shown on the mailing list of the National Commercial and Breeder Hatchery Coordinating Committee as of July 1, 1934.

It is recognized that this number may not be complete, and that a number of hatcheries were not listed by the Coordinating Committee and therefore not included in this section. The omissions are, however, small in number and the results of the geographical analysis

here presented are not materially affected by them.

The number and capacities of 11,405 hatcheries were first tabulated by States. The presentation by States, however, is almost entirely confined to several tables showing (1) the number of hatcheries, (2) the total capacity in each State, and (3) the relationship of incubator capacity in a given State to the number of chickens raised on farms in the same State. In these tables the States, for the most part, were arranged in the order of their numerical importance—that is,

the State with the largest number of hatcheries, or the greatest incubator capacity, or the highest ratio of capacity per 100 chickens raised on farms is shown first, and the State with the smallest shown last. The tables are, therefore, practically self-explanatory and really require no further comment.

Table 1.—Geographical distribution of the hatchery industry in the United States' July 1, 1934

[Listed alphabetically]

[Listed alphabetically]							
State	Number of hatch- eries	Percent of United States	Total capacity	Percent of United States	Num- ber of dealers	Percent of United States	
Alabama Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware Florida Georgia Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Mayland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Missoiri Montana Nebraska New 4da New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont West Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming District of Columbia	80 25 62 575 105 1144 53 79 102 62 600 609 757, 595 89 34 190 131 319 444 458 62 2 145 572 18 330 2 145 16 510 104 50 831 224 16 65 104 65 105 106 107 107 107 107 107 107 107 107 107 107	0. 70 22 .54 5. 04 .92 1. 26 .46 .99 .89 .54 5. 22 .78 .30 1. 67 1. 15 2. 80 3. 89 4. 02 .1. 64 6. 2. 89 4. 02 1. 27 1. 15 2. 80 3. 89 1. 67 1. 15 2. 80 3. 89 1. 67 1. 15 2. 80 3. 89 4. 02 1. 64 2. 89 3. 89 4. 02 1. 27 1. 15 5. 52 5. 64 5. 22 1. 27 1. 66 5. 29 1. 27 1. 96 1. 14 4. 47 7. 29 2. 08 8. 1. 09 1. 56 5. 29 1. 27 1. 36 1. 49 1. 56 5. 29 1. 27 1. 36 1. 49 1. 56 5. 29 1. 27 1. 36 1. 49 1. 56 5. 29 1. 27 1. 36 1. 49 1. 56 5. 29 1. 27 1. 36 1. 49 1. 57 1. 36	1, 066, 000 470, 000 869, 000 15, 720, 000 2, 412, 000 2, 412, 000 2, 532, 000 1, 854, 000 1, 1316, 000 1, 187, 000 1, 188, 00	0. 39 .17 .32 5. 69 .87 .92 .67 .36 .48 .43 7. 50 6. 19 7. 79 5. 00 .63 .18 .43 31. 41 3. 89 5. 61 .32 6. 67 .10 .63 .43 1. 91 .64 .32 6. 67 .10 .64 .32 6. 67 .10 .65 .32 6. 67 .10 .66 .17 .45 .53 .11 .40 .19 .17 .25 .52 .38 .31 .31 .41 .45 .38 .31 .41 .45 .46 .46 .46 .46 .47 .47 .47 .48 .48 .48 .48 .49 .49 .49 .49 .40 .40 .40 .40 .40 .40 .40 .40 .40 .40	23 111 5 59 39 33 27 8 8 53 18 19 20 60 70 60 70 28 16 9 9 9 24 23 23 33 71 13 30 15 16 11 13 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	1. 39 .66 .30 3.57 1. 99 1. 63 3. 20 1. 09 .72 4. 22 4. 22 3. 63 4. 22 1. 69 .97 .54 1. 45 1. 39 3. 50 6. 33 1. 93 3. 72 2. 11 1. 18 4. 28 .18 .90 3. 98 .06 6. 05 1. 88 .36 10, 75 6. 60 .90 .90 .90 1. 51 2. 83 .78 48 .84 .84 1. 45 3. 02 .12 .42 .42	
Total	11, 405	100.00	276, 287, 000	100.00	1,658	100.00	

 ${\tt Table \ 2.--} Geographical \ distribution \ of \ hatcheries \ in \ the \ United \ States, \ July \ 1, \ 1934$

[States listed in order of numerical importance]

State	Number of hatch- eries	Percent of United States	State	Number of hatch- eries	Percent of United States
1. Ohio. 2. Lowa. 3. Pennsylvania. 4. Indiana. 5. Texas. 6. Illinois. 7. Kansas. 8. California. 9. Missouri. 10. New York. 11. Wisconsin. 12. Minnesota. 13. Michigan. 14. Nebraska. 15. Massachusetts. 16. Washington. 17. Oklahoma. 18. New Jersey. 19. Oregon. 20. Maine. 21. Virginia. 22. New Hampshire. 23. Connecticut. 24. Maryland. 25. South Dakota. 26. Colorado.	635 6009 603 6003 595 575 572 510 473 458 444 330 319 240 237 224 214 190 179 145 144 131	7. 29 6. 64 5. 57 5. 57 5. 34 5. 29 5. 26 5. 22 5. 02 4. 47 4. 15 4. 02 2. 89 2. 89 2. 89 2. 80 2. 10 2. 10 2. 10 2. 10 2. 10 2. 10 3. 10 4. 1. 10 5.	27. North Carolina 28. Georgia 29. Kentucky 30. Alabama 31. Florida 32. South Carolina 33. Tennessee 34. Idaho 35. Mississippi 36. Arkansas 37. Vermont 38. Delaware 39. North Dakota 40. West Virginia 41. Utah 42. Rhode Island 43. Louisiana 44. Arizona 45. Montana 46. New Mexico 47. Wyoming 48. Nevada 49. District of Columbia	89 80 79 66 64 62 62 62 55 53 50 41 37 34 25 18	0. 91 . 89 . 78 . 70 . 69 . 58 . 56 . 54 . 54 . 49 . 46 . 44 . 43 . 36 . 32 . 30 . 22 . 16 . 14 . 07 . 02 . 09

Table 3.—Geographical distribution of hatching capacity in the United States, July 1, 1934

[States listed in order of numerical importance]

,		(
State ha	Total atchery apacity r State	Percent of United States	State	Total hatchery capacity for State	Percent of United States
2 Jowa 21, 3 Illinois. 20, 4 Missouri 18, 5 Indiana. 17, 6 California 15, 7 Minnesota 15, 8 Pennsylvania 14, 9 Kansas 13, 10 Texas 12, 11 Michigan 10, 12 Nebraska 9, 14 New York 7, 15 Oklahoma 6, 16 New Jersey 5, 17 Washington 5, 18 Massachusetts 3, 19 Virginia 3, 20 South Dakota 3, 21 Oregon 3, 22 Maryland 2, 23 Connecticut 2, 24 Colorado 2, 25 Tennessee 2,	720,000 497,000 497,000 809,000 524,000 759,000 487,000 114,000 114,000 411,000 888,000 888,000 864,000 608,000 456,000 435,000 532,000 412,000	9. 96 7. 79 7. 50 6. 67 7. 50 9. 6. 61 5. 69 5. 61 5. 23 5. 00 4. 53 3. 89 2. 21 1. 96 1. 93 1. 41 1. 40 1. 31 1. 25 1. 03 1. 92 87 77 67	27. New Hampshire 28. Kentucky 29. Utah 30. Georgia 31. North Carolina 32. Maine 33. Idaho 34. Alabama 35. South Carolina 36. Florida 37. North Dakota 38. Mississippi 39. Arkansas 40. Louisiana 41. West Virginia 42. New Mexico 43. Arizona 44. Rhode Island 45. Vermont 46. Montana 47. Wyoming 48. Nevada 49. District of Columbia	1, 733, 000 1, 474, 000 1, 316, 000 1, 273, 000 1, 180, 000 1, 180, 000 1, 066, 000 1, 047, 000 1, 003, 000 888, 000 505, 000 474, 000 470, 000 321, 000 321, 000 238, 000 156, 000	0. 66 .63 .53 .48 .46 .43 .39 .38 .36 .32 .32 .17 .17 .17 .12 .11 .10 .06 .01

The two dot maps (figs. 1 and 2) which accompany tables 2 and 3 present a graphic picture of the distribution of the hatchery industry by counties. Each dot in figure 1 represents one hatchery. In figure 2 each dot represents a capacity of 25,000 eggs.

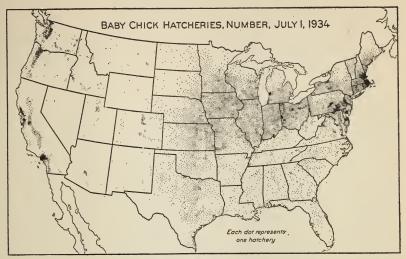


FIGURE 1.—The location of hatcheries in the United States, July 1, 1934.

Some areas in which relatively great concentration of hatcheries is shown do not have proportionately large total capacity of incubators.

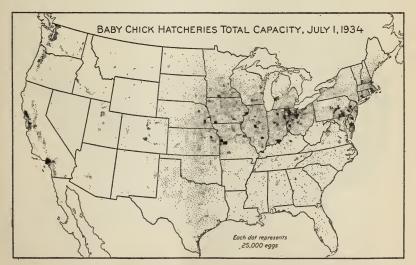


FIGURE 2.—The location of hatching capacity in the United States, July 1, 1934.

For instance, in parts of Massachusetts and some other New England areas where breeder hatcheries predominate there are large numbers of hatcheries but their total capacity is relatively small compared with some other sections of the country.

Other areas, such as northwestern Ohio and western Missouri, present the opposite picture. In these sections the concentration

Table 4.—Distribution of hatchery capacity in the United States, July 1, 1934' per 100 chickens raised on farms

[States listed in order of numerical importance]

State	Total hatchery capacity for State		ing ca-	State	Total hatchery capacity for State	of the	ing ca-
1. Ohio	1, 854 3, 456 15, 720 5, 411 3, 888 2, 532 1, 825 14, 445 17, 107 15, 497 10, 759 321 2, 412 21, 535 9, 266 1, 474 2, 835 12, 524 13, 809	7hous. 33, 370 2, 525 4, 790 22, 223 7, 855 5, 862 4, 175 3, 010 24, 800 29, 482 37, 622 28, 334 20, 579 10, 868 37, 853 37, 853 37, 853 37, 853 37, 853 37, 853 37, 942 32, 247 3, 633 7, 042 32, 256 35, 883 36, 004	82, 50 73, 43 72, 15 70, 74 68, 89 66, 31 60, 65 60, 63 58, 25 58, 03 55, 07 54, 71 52, 28 49, 05 46, 31 45, 08 44, 72 42, 87 40, 57 40, 57 40, 57 40, 57 40, 58 38, 83 38, 83 38, 48	26. Florida	1, 180 7, 135 1, 190 6, 114 470 3, 608 3, 864 316 1, 047 2, 113 1, 003 156 1, 316 1, 733 81, 088 1, 086 1, 273 474 4869 288 500	Thous. 2, 763 3, 317 22, 616 3, 796 19, 921 1, 586 13, 870 6, 725 15, 133 7, 335 14, 635 16, 181 8, 948 10, 773 10, 138 3, 496 6, 238 420 662, 550	36. 34 35. 57 31. 55 31. 35 30. 69 29. 63 26. 01 23. 07 18. 90 15. 57 11. 31 10. 71 19. 92 9. 90 9. 92 28. 89 9. 84 24. 8. 10 5. 48

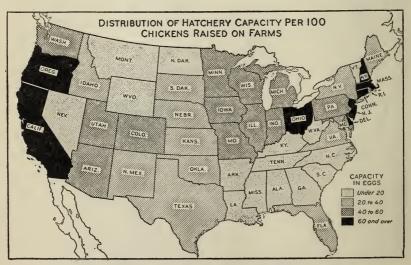


FIGURE 3.—Hatchery capacity, July 1, 1934, per 100 chickens raised on farms in 1933, by States.

of capacity is much more pronounced than the concentration of hatcheries. This is due to the prevalence of very large hatcheries in these sections.

Figure 3 shows in graphic form the information presented in table 4 on the distribution of hatchery capacity in relation to the number of chickens raised. From this map it can be readily observed which sections of the country have sufficient capacity to export quantities of chicks to other States, and which States need to import chicks.

The 11,405 hatcheries were divided into eight groups according to the incubator capacity of the individual hatcheries. These eight

capacity groups are as follows:

1. Under 10,000 eggs 2. 10,000 to 24,999 eggs 3. 25,000 to 39,999 eggs 4. 40,000 to 59,999 eggs 5. 60,000 to 99,999 eggs 6. 100,000 to 199,999 eggs 7. 200,000 to 499,999 eggs 8. 500,000 eggs and over

These capacity groups were determined by constructing a frequency distribution table in which all hatcheries were grouped by capacity intervals of 1,000. That is, hatcheries with a capacity of less than 1,000 were all placed in one class, those with a capacity of 1,000 to 2,000 in the next, and so on for each class. This frequency distribution table indicated a fairly natural division into a number of broader classes with large numbers of hatcheries grouped at certain capacities. On the basis of these natural divisions, which were probably due to the capacities of different makes of incubators, the above classification was determined. These capacity groups were used

throughout this study.

Table 5 shows the relative importance of the different hatchery capacity classes. The hatcheries in the first class, which have a capacity under 10,000 eggs, are by far the most numerous. Out of a total of 11,405 hatcheries, 4,934 or 43.3 percent fall in this class. Notwithstanding its numerical importance, this group, however, represents only a very small part of the total hatching capacity, namely, 6.9 percent. The second capacity class is the one which includes hatcheries with a capacity range of from 10,000 to 25,000 eggs. This class represents a larger percentage of the total incubator capacity than any of the other capacity classes. There are 3,315 hatcheries in this class and their total capacity amounts to 50,774,000 eggs. The percentages of the total are 29.1 percent of the number and 18.4 percent of the capacity.

Table 5.—Relative importance of 8 different capacity classes for 11,405 hatcheries in the United States, July 1, 1934

Capacity classes	Number of hatch- eries	Percent of total	Order of importance	Capacity	Percent of total	Order of importance
1. Under 10,000	4, 934	43. 3	1	19, 110, 000	6. 9	7
2. 10,000 to 24,999	3, 315	29. 1	2	50, 774, 000	18. 4	1
3. 25,000 to 39,999	1, 274	11. 2	3	39, 370, 000	14. 2	4
4. 40,000 to 59,999	895	7. 8	4	42, 481, 000	15. 4	3
5. 60,000 to 99,999	576	5. 0	5	44, 744, 000	16. 2	2
6. 100,000 to 199,999	294	2. 6	6	38, 790, 000	14. 0	5
7. 200,000 to 499,999	102	. 9	7	28, 946, 000	10. 5	6
8. 500,000 and over	15	. 1	8	12, 072, 000	4. 4	8

Progressively, as the capacity of the classes increases, the number of hatcheries in each class diminishes. Table 5 shows that the number of hatcheries in class 1 is the largest; in class 2, second largest; in

class 3, third largest, etc. It is, however, quite different with the total capacity of the hatcheries within each class. There we find that the capacity of class 1 is only slightly larger than the capacity in class 8. The largest capacities are found in classes 2 (10,000 to 24,999) and 5 (60,000 to 99,999).

It is interesting to note that the 15 hatcheries in class 8 have twothirds as large a capacity as all of the 4,934 hatcheries in class 1, and that the 102 hatcheries in class 7 have more than one and one-

half times that capacity.

This relationship between the number of hatcheries in a class and the total capacity of a given class is readily apparent from figure 4 which depicts this relationship graphically.

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE DIFFERENT CAPACITY CLASSES OF HATCHERIES

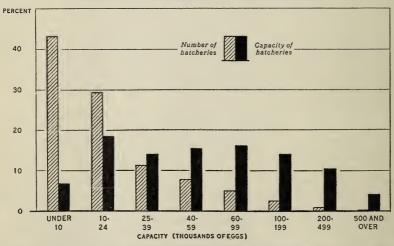


FIGURE 4.—The number and capacity of hatcheries in each of 10 capacity classes, as of July 1, 1934.

Inasmuch as this entire study was based upon the operations of hatcheries during the fiscal year 1934,6 it was felt that some analysis should be made on the basis of the 10 regions into which all of the hatcheries were divided in the original code which was then in operation. These 10 regions are as follows:

Region

1. California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, Montana.

New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana.
 Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida.

4. North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado.

5. Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York.
6. Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, District of Columbia, Virginia,

Maryland, West Virginia.

7. Ohio.

8. Indiana and Illinois. 9. Iowa and Missouri.

10. Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan.

⁶ July 1, 1933, to June 30, 1934.
⁷ All analysis in the following sections dealing with functions of hatcheries, hatching efficiency, cost of production, and margin of profit is based on 10 regions.

The following tables present a rough geographic picture of the hatchery industry on the basis of the above-enumerated 10 regions and show the regional distribution of the hatcheries and of their incubator capacity. At this time, however, no analysis of the figures in these tables is thought necessary because similar tables are also presented later on the basis of the 20 revised regions, along with a brief analysis.

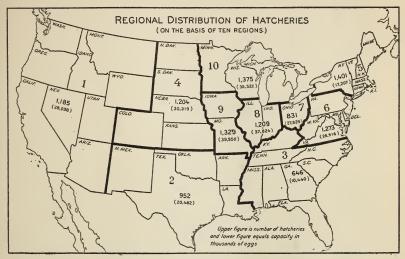


FIGURE 5.-Number of hatcheries and hatching capacity, July 1, 1934, by 10 regions

Table 6.—Regional distribution of 11,405 hatcheries in the United States, July 1, 1934

[By 10 regions]

Region	Number of hatch- eries	Percent of United States total	Order of numeri- cal im- portance	Regional capacity (In thou- sands)	Percent of United States total	Order of numeri- cal im- portance
1	1, 185 952 646 1, 204 1, 401 1, 273 831 1, 209 1, 329 1, 375	10. 39 8. 35 5. 66 10. 56 12. 28 11. 16 7. 29 10. 60 11. 65 12. 06	7 8 10 6 1 4 9 5 3 2	28, 098 20, 482 10, 440 30, 319 17, 207 28, 916 27, 529 37, 824 39, 950 35, 522	10. 17 7. 41 3. 78 10. 97 6. 23 10. 47 9. 96 13. 69 14. 46 12. 86	6 8 10 4 9 5 7 2 1 3
Total, United States	11, 405	100.00		276, 287	100.00	

Table 7.—Relative distribution of 11,405 hatcheries in the United States, July 1, 1934, according to capacity classes and regions

[By 10 regions]

al	Per-	8888888888	100
Total	Num- ber hatch- eries	1, 185 952 646 1, 204 1, 401 1, 273 1, 329 1, 329 1, 375	11, 405
Hatcheries with capac- ity from 00,000 and over	Per- cent of total for region	0. 10 . 08 . 07 . 07 . 33 . 38	. 13
Hatel with c ity f 500,000 a	Num- ber hatch- eries		15
Hatcheries with capac- city from 200,000-499,999	Per- cent of total for region	0.85 .31 .67 .57 .21 .63 .2.17 1.49 1.65	68.
Hate with city 200,000	Num- ber hatch- eries	01 22 88 88 11 11	102
Hatcheries with capac- ity from 100,000-199,999	Per- cent of total for region	2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2	2.58
Hatc with ity 100,000	Num- ber hatch- eries	44 10 10 33 33 38 88 89 89 89 88 88	294
Hatcheries with capac- ity from 60,000-99,999	Per- cent of total for region	3.13 3.13 1.55 1.55 1.55 1.55 1.55 1.55	5.05
Hate with ity 60,000	Num- ber hatch- eries	63 10 10 22 22 61 61 84 84	576
Hatcheries with capac- lity from 40,000-59,999	Per- cent of total for region	5, 99 8, 61 3, 72 11, 38 2, 00 6, 76 9, 51 10, 50 10, 01 9, 31	7.85
Hatc with	Num- ber hatch- eries	71 82 82 137 137 73 127 127 123	895
heries capac- rom -39,999	Per- cent of total for region	9.87 13.24 8.36 11.71 5.28 12.02 14.20 14.56 11.21 12.07	11. 17
Hatcheries with capacity from 25,000-39,999	Num- ber hatch- eries	117 126 54 141 141 74 153 118 176 149	1, 274
Hatcheries with capac- ity from 10,000-24,999	Per- cent of total for region	30.04 34.52 34.52 27.24 31.26 28.90 23.02 30.62	29. 07
Hatcl with ity f 10,000	Num- ber hatch- eries	356 328 328 328 328 328 330 421	3, 315
heries capac- nder 000	Per- cent of total for region	44. 22 33. 19 49. 84 49. 84 63. 17 41. 95 35. 86 36. 89 45. 00 86. 89	43.26
Hatch with c ity u 10,	Num- ber hatch- eries	524 322 322 485 885 534 534 646 646 598 526	4,934
	Region	2.2.2.3.3.3.5.6.4.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6.6	Total, United States.

Table 8.—Relative distribution of the hatching capacity of 11,405 hatcheries in the United States, July 1, 1934, according to capacity classes and regions

[By 10 regions]

a a	Per-	888888888	100
Total	Capac ity, eggs	Thou- sands 28, 20, 698 20, 482 10, 440 30, 319 117, 207 22, 916 27, 529 37, 824 38, 950	276, 287
Hatcheries with capac- ity from 500,000 and over	Per- cent of total for region	2.97 2.97 2.17 3.64 3.43 7.12 12.42 2.99	4.37
Hatch with ity i 500,000	Capac- ity, eggs	Thou-sands 608 517 658 626 2, 695 4, 962 1, 063	12, 072
Hatcheries with capacity from 200,000-499,999	Per- cent of total for region	10.82 2.60 4.52 6.23 6.52 8.74 17.18 13.02 15.87 9.48	10.48
Hate with ity 200,000	Capacity, eggs	Thou-sands 3, 042 533 472 1, 890 1, 123 2, 526 4, 924 6, 340 3, 368	28, 946
Hatcheries with capac- ity from 100,000-199,999	Per- cent of total for region	20.68 9.69 12.00 14.11 14.12 15.02 18.73 13.36 14.79	14.04
Hate with ity i	Capac- ity, eggs	Thou-sands sands 5,810 1,253 4,368 7,09 4,344 5,052 5,052 6,052 6,111 4,991	38, 790
Hatcheries with capac- ity from 60,000–99,999	Per- cent of total for region	16.93 11.97 7.86 18.05 9.53 16.23 17.13 20.09 15.44 18.09	16.19
Hate with ity 60,000	Capacity,	Thou-sands 8 ands 4, 758 2, 452 2, 472 1, 640 4, 694 4, 716 6, 167 6, 426	44, 744
heries sapac- rom -59,999	Per- cent of total for region	11. 73 19. 40 21. 88 7. 70 14. 06 13. 33 15. 87 17. 12	15.37
Hatcheries with capacity from 40,000-59,999	Capac- ity, eggs	Thou-sands 3, 295 3, 295 1, 143 6, 33 1, 325 4, 065 3, 668 6, 003 6, 294 6, 081	42, 481
heries capac- rom -39,999	Per- cent of total for region	12.76 18.91 16.46 14.48 13.50 16.53 17.53 11.53 14.39	14. 25
Hatcheries with capac- ity from 25,000-39,999	Capacity,	Thou-sands 3, 585 3, 872 1, 718 4, 392 2, 323 4, 694 5, 434 6, 605 5, 434 6, 605 6, 112	39, 370
Hatcheries with capac- ity from 10,000-24,999	Per- cent of total for region	19. 48 28. 87 17. 79 17. 42 20. 99 11. 62 11. 68 11. 68	18.38
Hatcl with c ity f 10,000	Capac- ity, eggs	Thou-sands 5,914 5,914 5,914 5,559 6,069 3,475 4,617 6,401	50, 774
heries sapac- nder 000	Per- cent of total for region	7. 60 11. 47 11. 47 5. 59 22. 68 22. 68 8. 73 3. 97 4. 34 5. 86	6.92
Hatcheries with capacity under 10,000	Capacity, eggs	Thou-sands 2, 135 2, 135 1, 145 1, 197 1, 625 2, 524 1, 196 1, 501 1, 805 2, 805 2, 805 2, 805 2, 805 2, 805 2, 805	19, 110
	Region		Total, United States.

The amended Code of Fair Competition for the Commercial and Breeder Hatchery Industry, which became effective on January 16, 1935, reorganized the previous 10 regions into the following 20 revised regions:

Region

1. California.

Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, Montana.
 Texas, New Mexico.

Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana.
 Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina.

6. South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida.

South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida.
 Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota.
 Kansas, Colorado.
 New York, Vermont.
 Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut.
 Pennsylvania, West Virginia.
 Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia.

13. Ohio.

- 14. Michigan. 15. Indiana.
- 16. Illinois. 17. Iowa.
- 18. Missouri. 19. Minnesota.

20. Wisconsin.

An analysis of the number of hatcheries and the incubator capacity of the hatcheries was made on the basis of these 20 revised regions.

The capacity classes, however, remain the same.

Table 9 on the regional distribution of the hatchery industry is in every respect similar to table 6. The only difference between these two tables is that table 6 is based on the 10 regions while table 9 gives the same information on the basis of the 20 revised regions.

Table 9.—Regional Distribution of 11,405 Hatcheries in the United States, July 1, 1934 [By 20 regions]

Region	Number of hatch- eries	Percent of total	Order of importance	Regional capacity	Percent of total	Order of importance
1	831 444 609 600 757 572 458	5.1 5.4 2.9 2.3 3.4 4.4 6.1 5.0 7.3 6.0 5.2 7.3 5.3 6.6 0 4.0	111 7 7 6 9 19 200 18 14 4 4 13 3 1 5 5 10 0 2 2 17 8 9 9 3 3 12 2 16 6 15 5	15, 720, 000 12, 378, 000 12, 994, 000 7, 488, 000 5, 119, 000 5, 321, 000 14, 098, 000 16, 221, 000 7, 451, 000 9, 756, 000 14, 919, 000 27, 529, 000 10, 759, 000 20, 717, 000 20, 717, 000 21, 535, 000 18, 415, 000 15, 497, 000 9, 266, 000	5.7 4.5 4.7 2.7 1.8 1.9 5.1 5.9 2.7 5.4 5.1 10.0 3.9 6.2 7.5 7.8 6.7 5.6 6.3	7 13 12 17 20 19 10 6 18 15 9 11 6 14 5 3 2 4 8 16
All regions	11, 405	100. 0		276, 287, 000	100. 0	

Table 9 shows the number of hatcheries in each of the 20 regions, the total capacity of each, the percentage of each region to the total for the United States, and the order of importance of the region

according to magnitude. The same information is graphically pre-

sented in figure 6.

Significant concentration of incubator capacity appears in regions 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19. In these regions, comprised of the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, and Minnesota, are 33.5 percent of the total number of hatcheries. The combined capacity of these regions amounts to 43.8 percent of the total hatching capacity in the United States. It is in these States that almost one-third of all the poultry in the United States is raised on farms.

Tables 10 and 12, showing the number and total capacity of hatcheries in each region by capacity groups, make comparison of the different regions easy. For instance, it can be seen from these tables that the largest percentage of small hatcheries is found in region 10, which comprises the New England States of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. In this region 66.6 percent or two-thirds of all hatcheries fall into class 1, or hatch-

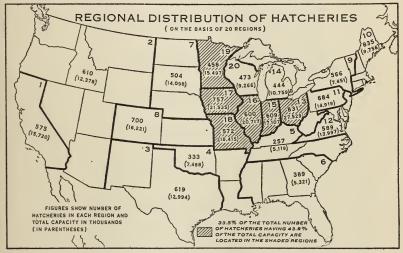


Figure 6.—Number of hatcheries and hatching capacity, July 1, 1934, by 20 regions.

eries with capacities of 10,000 eggs or less. Region 9, comprised of the States of New York and Vermont, is second in this respect with 58.1 percent of all the hatcheries falling in class 1. These are the regions where most of the hatcheries are breeder hatcheries, which are

not especially well adapted to large scale production.

The largest percentage of hatcheries with capacities ranging from 10,000 to 25,000 is in region 3, comprised of the States of New Mexico and Texas. Such hatcheries here comprise 42.5 percent of the total number of the hatcheries in the region. The largest percentage of hatcheries with a capacity of 25,000 to 200,000, as well as the very largest hatcheries in the country, is found in the regions of heaviest hatchery concentration and heaviest poultry production. These regions were referred to above and are shaded on the map which shows the distribution of the hatchery industry on the basis of the 20 regions.

Tables 11 and 13 show information on the number and capacity of hatcheries, broken down according to capacity classes, by States.

TABLE 10.—Relative distribution of 11,405 hatcheries in the United States, July 1, 1934, according to capacity classes and regions

[By 20 regions]

	Per-	9.9999999999999999999999999999999999999	100
Total	Num- ber of hatch- eries	575 6119 833 838 504 504 504 668 838 838 688 838 660 600 600 600 600 600 600 600 600 60	11, 405
ies with y from nd over	Percent of total for region	1. 4. 6. 1. 1. 676 66	.1
Hatcheries with capacity from 500,000 and over	Num- ber of hatch- eries		15
Hatcheries with capacity from 200,000-499,999	Percent of total for region	1	6.
Hatcher capacit 200,000-	Num- ber of hatch- eries	7 cc 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	102
Hatcheries with capacity from 100,000–199,999	Percent of total for region	4ೞ್-1ಚಚ⊣ಚ್ಛಚಪ4ಚಚಪ್ಪಚಟ್ ಚಪಜ−ಜರ⊙ಜಜನಚ⊣ಜನಾತುಕರಣ	2.6
Hatcher capacit 100,000	Num- ber of hatch- eries	28×1-0458244588138222586	294
Hatcheries with capacity from 60,000–99,999	Percent of total for region	ಬಿತ್ಪತ್ತಗಳನ್ನು 'ತತ್ಸಬಹುಬ್ದತ್ಪು ಗಾತತ್ರಾಹರ್ಣಾ	5.0
Hatcheries with capacity from 60,000–99,999	Num- ber of hatch- eries	888219 48412 788 8 8 8 8 7 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	576
Hatcheries with capacity from 40,000–59,999	Percent of total for region	7.47.034%87.24.25.28.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.23.	7.8
Hatcheries wit capacity from 40,000–59,999	Num- ber of hatch- eries	8212882228822884888	895
Hatcheries with capacity from 25,000–39,999	Percent of total for region	11.28.28.29.29.29.29.29.29.29.29.29.29.29.29.29.	11.2
Hatcher capacit 25,000	Num- ber of hatch- eries	878832888458P8888244	1, 274
Hatcheries with capacity from 10,000-24,999	Percent of total for region	888 888 888 888 888 888 888 888 888 88	29.1
Hatcheries wit capacity from 10,000–24,999	Num- ber of hatch- eries	190 100 117 117 117 118 118 118 118 118 118 118	3, 315
Hatcheries with capaity under 10,000	Percent of total for region	%1.2%4.2%24.2%2.24 %1.2%24.2%24.2%2.2%2.2%2.2%2.2%2.2%2.2%2.2	43.3
Hatcher capaity 10,0	Num- ber of hatch- eries	212 212 213 213 224 225 226 226 227 228 228 228 228 228 228 228 228 228	4, 934
	Region	2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.	Total, United States

Table 11.—Relative distribution by States of 11,405 hatcheries in the United States July 1, 1934, according to capacity classes

[Arranged alphabetically]

	tal	Percent	333333333333333333333333333333333333333
	Total	Num- ber of hatch- eries	88 98 98 98 98 98 98 98 98 98
	Hatcheries with capacity from 500,000 and over	Percent of total for State	Q
		Num- ber of hatch- eries	
	Hatcheries with capacity from 200,000 to 499,999	Percent of total for State	2 0 8289 8 2 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
	Hatcher capacit 200,000 t	Num- ber of hatch- eries	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
	Hatcheries with capacity from 100,000 to 199,999	Percent of total for State	1
		Num- ber of hatch- eries	1
	Hatcheries with capacity from 60,000 to 99,999	Percent of total for State	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8
etically		Num- ber of hatch- eries	22 E 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
Arranged alphabetically	Hatcheries with capacity from 40,000 to 59,999	Percent of total for State	888 86 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88 87 88
Arrange		Num- ber of hatch- eries	842 ± 1 ± 1 ± 1 ± 1 ± 1 ± 1 ± 1 ± 1 ± 1 ±
2	Hatcheries with capacity from 25,000 to 39,999	Percent of total for State	7.3.8.1.9.4.8.8.9.1.8.7.2.3.2.3.9.8.1.3.0.2.3.4.8.8.8.8.8.8.9.1.3.0.2.3.4.3.0.3.3.4.8.8.8.8.8.8.8.8.8.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9.9
	Hatcheries with capacity from 25,000 to 39,999	Num- ber of hatch- eries	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
	Hatcheries with capacity from 10,000 to 24,999	Percent of total for State	28882828282828888888888888888888888888
	Hatcher capacit 10,000 t	Num- ber of hatch- eries	28 22 22 22 22 22 23 24 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25
	Hatcheries with capacity under 10,000	Percent of total for State	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
	Hatcher capacit 10,	Num- ber of hatch- eries	46 212 212 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40
		State	Alabama Arizona Arizona Arizona Arizona Golorado Connecticut Delaware Florida Goorgia Goorgia Goorgia Inidian

Table 11.—Relative distribution by States of 11,405 hatcheries in the United States July 1, 1934, according to capacity classes—Continued

[Arranged alphabetically]

	al	Percent	202202020202020	100
	Total	Num- ber of hatch- eries	635 635 64 664 603 603 641 73 740 740 740 740 740 740 740 740 740 740	11, 405
	ies with y from ind over	Percent of total for State	8.	.1
	Hatcheries with capacity from 500,000 and over	Num- ber of hatch- eries	1	15
	Hatcheries with eapacity from capacity from capacity from (00,000 to 199,999 200,000 to 489,999	Percent of total for State	0.0 1.6 1.6 1.1 1.1 1.1 1.1 1.1 1.1 1.1 1.1	6.
	Hatcheries with capacity from capacity from capacity from 100,000 to 199,999 200,000 to 499,999	Num- ber of hatch- eries	4 1 1 2 1 1 1	102
	ries with ty from o 199,999	Percent of total for State	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	2.6
		Num- ber of hatch- eries	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	294
	Hatcheries with capacity from 60,000 to 99,999	Percent of total for State	0 2 4 6 4 6	5.0
cucany		Num- ber of hatch- eries	32 1 1 15 2 2 2 6 11 11 11	576
arbnane	Hatcheries with capacity from 40,000 to 59,999	Percent of total for State	20.2 20.2 20.2 20.2 20.2 20.2 20.2 20.3 20.3	7.8
Attanged appraisenceing		Num- ber of hatch- eries	50 22 25 46 46 77 112 22 22 1	895
-	Hatcheries with capacity from 25,000 to 39,999	Percent of total for State	11. 5 2. 7 10. 7 10. 1 16. 1 12. 2 17. 9 19. 5 12. 5	11.2
		Num- ber of hatch- eries	73 1 20 20 44 83 53 11 11 11 145 11	1, 274
	Hatcheries with capacity from 10,000 to 24,999	Percent of total for State	32. 6 30. 30. 30. 30. 30. 30. 30. 30. 30. 30.	29.1
		Num- ber of hatch- eries	207 83 339 233 237 66 67 73 73 73 73 73 73	3, 315
	Hatcheries with capacity under 10,000	Percent of total for State	40.05 20.05	43.3
	Hatcher capacit 10,	Num- ber of hatch- eries	255 26 35 30 30 193 193 184 47 47 80 112 38 112 38 112 38 112 38 112 38 39 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30	4, 934
		State	Pennsylvania. Rhode Island. South Dakoia. South Dakoia. Funessee. Tennessee. Texas. Vigh. Vernont. Vernont. Washington Wasonsin. Wayoming.	Total, United States. 4, 9

Table 12.—Relative distribution of 11,405 hatcheries in the United States, July 1, 1934, according to capacity classes and regions

[By 20 regions]

=	Per-	888888888888888888888888888888888888888	100
Total	Capac- ity, eggs	Thou-sands as and a sand a san	276, 287
Hatcheries with capacity from 500,000 and over	Percent of total for re- gion	101 101 101 3.4 4.7 7.7 8.3.4 10.5 6.4 6.4 6.4 6.4 6.4 6.4 6.4 6.4 6.4 6.4	4.4
Hatcheries with capacity from 500,000 and over	Capac- ity, eggs	Thou- sands 608 517 658 658 626 626 2, 172 2, 172 1, 063 1, 063	12, 072
Hatcheries with capacity from 200,000–499,999	Percent of total for re- gion	627.50.00.44.4.50.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.	10.5
Hatcher capacit 200,000	Capac- ity, eggs	Thou-sands 2, 980 2, 982 2, 982 2, 982 2, 982 2, 982 2, 982 2, 988 2, 982 2, 978 2, 988 2, 988 2, 988 2, 988 2, 988 4,88	28, 946
Hatcheries with capacity from 100,000–199,999	Percent of total for re- gion	11.03 0.01.00 0.00.00 0.00.00 0.00.00 0.00.00 0.00.0	14.0
Hatche capaci 100,000	Capacity, eggs	Thou-saids and saids and saids and saids and saids and said and sa	38, 790
Hatcheries with capacity from 60,000–99,999	Percent of total for re- gion	68888868646466666666666666666666666666	16.2
Hatcher capacit 60,000	Capac- ity, eggs	Those sands	44, 744
Hatcheries with capacity from 40,000–59,999	Percent of total for re- gion	12.3 11.0 11.0 11.0 12.5 12.5 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.5 13.5 13	15.4
Hatcher capacit 40,000	Capac- ity, eggs	7700x-8 muls sands sands sands 1,1,233 (2,1), 233 (2,2), 233 (2,2), 2449 (2,1)	42, 481
Hatcheries with capacity from 25,000–39,999	Percent of total for re- gion	\$2122 \$2122	14.2
Hatcher capacit 25,000	Capac- ity, eggs	Thou-sands sands s	39, 370
Hatcheries with capacity from 10,000–24,999	Percent of total for re- gion	81 82 83 83 83 84 84 84 84 84 84 84 84 84 84	18.4
Hatcher capacit 10,000	Capacity, eggs	Those same same same same same same same sa	50, 774
Hatcheries with capacity under under 10,000	Percent of total for re- gion	ら ひ ら し ら ら ら は よ の の は よ の の の は れ の の の の の の の の の の の の の	6.9
Hatcherie capacity under 1	Capac- ity, eggs	Thou-sands and sands and sands and sands and sands and sand s	19,110
	Region	1.2 6.4 4.3 2.2 1.1 1.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0	Total, United States

TABLE 13.—Relative distribution by States of the hatching capacity of 11.405 hatcheries in the United States, July 1, 1934, according to capacity classes

[Arranged alphabetically]

	al	Percent	5	323	35	100	99	100	99	801	100	35	86	100	000	901	96	100	99	300	100	92	100	100	301	100
	Total	Capa- city, eggs	Thous.	470	15. 720	2, 412	2, 532	1,004	1,316	20, 717	17, 107	21, 535	15, 503	505	1, 190	2,835	10, 759	15, 497	10 415	288	9, 487	1 895	5, 411	470	1, 135	1,003
	Hatcheries with capacity from 500,000 and over	Percent of total for State		: : : : : : : : : : : :			24. 7				3,1	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	29.9		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1 1		6.9	0.46	0.14	6.9					
		Capa- city, eggs	Thous.				626		-	2.172	523		517		-		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1,063	4 069	7, 302	658	-	1 1			
	Hatcheries with capacity from 200,000–499,999	Percent of total for State			13.3				17.2	14.4	11.4	12.9	ò		-		10.9	18.6	10.2		5.1	7 96 7	14.3		3.4	
		Capa- city, eggs	Thous.		2 002				227	2.978	1,946	2, 783	1, 194			400	20,5	2,888	2 557		482	488	772	100	235	
	Hatcheries with capacity from 100,000–199,999	Percent of total for State	11	11.0	91.1	5.6	16.0	11.2	0 17	13.1	13.7	14.2	21.0			16.2			11 9		9.6		19.4	42.1	9.5	15.0
		Capa- city, eggs	Thous.	OFT THE	3.318	136	104	113	100	2, 708	2,344	3,057	2, 590			458	1.386	2, 353	9 054	F 00 4	939		1.054	198	115	151
	Hatcheries with capacity from 60,000–99,999	Percent of total for State		29.4	15.9	33.4	41.0	17.2	0 66	18.3	22. 2	18.0	3.6	34. 2		15.4	22.8	13.6	15.8	7 7	17.6	6 P	11.9	1 1 7	15.5	14.4
ericanyl		Capa- city, eggs	Thous.	138	2. 499		301	173	006	3.801	3, 797			173		160		2, 111	9 985		1,671	78	647	100	1, 103	144
ı arbuan	Hatcheries with capacity from 40,000–59,999	Percent of total for State	200	18.5	31.0	20.9	∞ t~	10.3	4.7	17.5	13.9	22. 4	16.3		17	ν.ς. ν.ς.	20.3	17.7	21.3	52.4	25.8	7 1	12.3	11.7	0 C	32.2
Allangeu alphabeucany		Capa- city, eggs	Th	87	_	î				ಣಿ	<u>, 64</u> .	4,0	٠ <u>ــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــ</u>		-		2	2,740	-	÷	2,452	190	664	555	677	323
	Hatcheries with capacity from 25,000–39,999	Percent of total for State	1	20.2	13.0	12.1	8.8	9.0	23.6	12.3	16.9	13.00	14.5	17.8	7.0	17.8	19.2	10.6	7.67 87.0	5	12.2				18.6	
		Capa- city, eggs	Thous.	95	2.047	293	322	06	310	2, 544	2,890	2, 959	252	06	₩.	000	2.068	1,648	1 646	7,010	1,155	163	685	161	1, 191	1 1
	Hatcheries with capacity from 10,000-24,999	Percent of total for State	6 96	21.5	18.7	21.4	12.2	34.9	40.3	10.5	14. 2	14.4	28.4	33.9	39.5	22.52	18.7	13.6	10 kg	30.2	18.7	20.00	20.1	21.7	52.0	31.2
		Capa- city, eggs	Th	101	2	î 				2,	`ci (4			_	î ci	۷,	-	-	<u>, , </u>				, ,	_
	Hatcheries with capacity under 10,000	Percent of total for State	7	10.4	5.7	6.6	3.7	17.4	11.5	. 8. 8. 4. 6	4.6	4, 4	.30	14.1	53.3	98.0	6.1	φ; •	4.7	17.4	80.	23.4	9.3	5.1	17.1	7.2
	Hatche capacit	Capa- city, eggs	Thous.	49	90.	159	933	175	151	707	794	935	127	17	640	015	099	591	101	202	359	497	201	1 200	218	72
		State	Nohama	Arizona	California	Colorado	Oonnecticut Delaware	Florida	Georgia	Ilinois	ndiana	Kansas	Kentucky	Louisiana	Manne	Massachusetts	Michigan	Minnesota	Missouri	Montana	Nebraska	New Hampshire	New Jersey	New Mexico	North Carolina	North Dakota

80	100
27, 529 6, 114 3, 456 14, 445 1, 047 3, 608 1, 047 3, 864 1, 724 1, 1, 744 1, 744 1, 316 3, 864 5, 331 6, 266 1, 2	276, 287
4.9	4.4
608	12,072
17.2 3.88 9.98 9.98 9.98 1.69 1.69 1.69 6.33 6.33 6.33 1.69	10.5
4,728 233 340 1,340 214 245 306 272 420 338 480	28, 946
18. 8 11. 12. 3 11. 13. 3 13. 3 14. 3 15. 3 15. 3 16. 3 17.	14.0
5,108 872 872 1,784 1,784 238 246 591 465 1,468 1,252 1,252	38, 790
17. 2 15. 3 16. 3 16. 7 10. 4 10. 4 14. 4 14. 4	16.2
4,716 958 813 2,356 60 60 60 1,133 1,133 1,133 1,187 1,867	44, 744
13.3 26.5 26.5 26.5 26.5 26.5 26.5 26.5 26.5	15.4
3,668 1,412 2,314 2,315 8,54 1,188 2,238 2,238 2,238 2,238 2,238 2,238 2,238 2,238 2,138 2	42, 481
13.2 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0	14.2
3, 635 4, 477 2, 232 2, 232 2, 534 620 1, 564 1, 306 1, 306 39	39, 370
22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22	18.4
3,475 1,379 826 3,157 110 285 646 646 82 82 82 82 1,146 1,146 2,283 2,283 2,283 33	50, 774
445100000000000000000000000000000000000	6.9
1, 196 273 1, 231 1, 23	19, 110
Ohlo Oklahouna Organ Organ Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Bouth Carolina South Dakota. Tennessee. Penss Penss Virginia Vernont Vernont Vernont Washington	Total, United States. 19

A comparison between the number of chickens raised on farms in each of the 20 regions and the hatching capacity of these regions is shown in table 14. Similar information was shown earlier in this section for every State individually. This ratio is very uneven for the country as a whole, ranging from a capacity of over 82 eggs per 100 chickens raised in Ohio and over 70 in California to only 11 in region 5, comprised of the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, and North Carolina, and 13 in region 6, comprised of Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida. For the country as a whole this ratio is 41.7.

Table 14.—Hatchery capacity, July 1, 1934, per 100 chickens raised on farms in 1933 for 11,405 hatcheries in the United States

[By 20 regions]

Region	Total capacity of hatch- eries in the re- gions	Chickens raised on the farms of the region in 1933	Hatching capacity per 100 chickens raised	Region	Total capacity of hatch- eries in the re- gions	Chickens raised on the farms of the region in 1933	Hatching capacity per 100 chickens raised	
1	Thou-sands 15, 720 12, 378 12, 994 7, 488 5, 119 5, 321 14, 098 16, 221 7, 451 9, 756 14, 919	Thou-sands 22, 223 28, 896 33, 842 36, 477 45, 428 40, 844 47, 209 41, 276 24, 288 17, 554 30, 133	70. 74 42. 84 38. 40 20. 53 11. 27 13. 03 29. 86 39. 30 30. 68 55. 57 49. 51	12	Thou-sands 13, 964 27, 529 10, 759 17, 107 20, 717 21, 535 18, 415 15, 497 9, 266	Thou- sands 34, 169 33, 370 20, 579 29, 482 37, 622 50, 234 37, 853 28, 324 22, 747 662, 550	40. 87 82. 51 32. 28 58. 03 58. 07 42. 87 48. 65 54. 71 40. 74	

¹ This total is exclusive of the District of Columbia.

INTERSTATE CHARACTER OF THE COMMERCIAL AND BREEDER HATCHERY INDUSTRY

The obvious conclusion from an analysis of the geographical distribution of hatcheries in the United States is that while the industry is scattered throughout the country with hatcheries located in every State in the Union, nevertheless both the number of hatcheries and hatchery capacity are exceedingly unevenly distributed. The uneven distribution of hatcheries and of hatchery capacity gives rise to a sub-

stantial amount of interstate commerce in baby chicks.

The shipment of baby chicks over rather long distances is possible because the baby chick, when hatched, contains in its body sufficient nourishment for approximately 72 hours, and, therefore, requires no food or water for a period of 2 or 3 days while in transit. Because baby chicks are physically adapted to transportation over long distances, the United States postal authorities admitted them to the mails on May 15, 1918, and since that time it has been possible to ship baby chicks by parcel post as well as by express to all points in the United States. Since 1918, many improvements have been made in the type of container used for the shipment of baby chicks. These improvements, which decreased mortality of chicks in transit, further encouraged the shipment of chicks over long distances. Boxes have been developed in which chicks may be shipped for many miles with a minimum of damage or loss.

In the hatchery industry it is customary to contract for chicks prior to the day of hatching, and therefore the chicks are usually shipped to their destination within a few hours after they are hatched. It is not at all uncommon to ship chicks by rail to points so far distant that shipments require 40 to 72 hours in transit. In some cases chicks are delivered by airplanes.

It is estimated that in the United States approximately half of all the chickens raised on farms in 1934 were hatched in commercial and

breeder hatcheries by means of artificial incubation.

It was pointed out above that the hatchery capacity is very unevenly distributed throughout the country. During the 1934 season, the hatcheries in the State of Delaware, where many winter broilers are produced, hatched approximately 142 chicks for every 100 chickens raised on farms, while hatcheries in the State of Arkansas hatched less than 10 chicks for every 100 chickens raised on Arkansas farms. is, therefore, obvious that some States hatch far in excess of their own requirements, and that other States do not hatch nearly enough to satisfy their local requirements. Table 15, showing the estimated number of salable chicks produced by hatcheries in 1934 in relation to the number of chickens raised on farms in 1933, indicates clearly the uneven distribution of chick production by hatcheries throughout the country. The obvious fact is that chicks must be shipped from States producing considerably in excess of their local requirements to States which produce only a fraction of the number of chicks required by their poultry industry.

Another reason why interstate commerce in baby chicks is desirable is that there is considerable specialized poultry breeding in some sections. The hatcheries on the Pacific coast, for instance, are known throughout the country for their ability to produce a high grade of Leghorn chicks. The New England States have a well-established reputation for producing high-quality chicks of heavy breeds, such as Rhode Island Reds, New Hampshire Reds, and Plymouth Rocks. Most of the Southern States depend upon the Middle West States for chicks of the heavy breeds. Other sections of the country have specialized in crossing pure strains and marketing hybrid chicks. It can be readily seen, therefore, that there is considerable shipping of chicks from one section of the country to another in order to main-

tain flocks of particular breeds.

The intention on the part of many hatcheries to sell chicks to poultrymen located in far-distant States is obvious from the volume and character of advertising done by many hatcheries. Wide circularization, by means of post card, leaflet, and letter, of prospective customers located in numerous States other than the one in which the advertising hatchery is located is the rule. In addition, many of the larger hatcheries advertise in national poultry and farm papers and periodicals. Scores of hatchery advertisements appear in the various poultry magazines which circulate in every State of the United States and in many foreign countries. Some poultry or farm periodicals, with an almost entirely local circulation, carry considerable advertising by hatcheries located in other States. Such advertising, therefore, appears to be inserted solely with the intention of soliciting orders from poultry producers located in distant States.

Table 15.—Estimated number of salable chicks produced by 1,263 hatcheries in 1934 in relation to the number of chickens raised on farms in 1933

[By States]

State Stat								Esti-		
Thouse Sands San	State	mated hatch- ery capac- ity in	capac- ity uti- liza-	mated num- ber of eggs set by hatch- eries (col- umns	cent of hatch-	mated produc- tion of chicks (col- umns	mated allow- ance for mor- tality of 20 per-	mated num- ber of livable chicks sold by hatch- eries (col- umns	ber of chick- ens raised on farms in	percent of chicks sold in 1934 to chicks raised on farms
Alabama		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Arizona Arizona Arkansas. California Colorado. Connecticut Delaware. Florida Georgia Idaho. Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas. Kentucky Louisiana Maine. Maryland Massachusetts Michigan. Minnesota. Mississippi Missouri Montana Nevrada Nevada Nevada New Hampshire. New Jersey. New Hampshire. New Jersey. New Mexico North Carolina North Dakota Ohio. Oklahoma Oregon. Pennsylvania Rhode Island. South Dakota Trennessee Texas Uttah Vermont Verginia Washington. West Virginia West Virginia West Virginia Wissonsin. Wyoming	sands 1, 066 470 2, 412 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 2, 532 1, 854 1, 107 21, 535 2, 888 10, 759 15, 497 888 9, 487 23 1, 828 9, 487 23 1, 825 1, 273 1, 103 27, 529 6, 144 445 311 1, 047 3, 608 2, 113 12, 524 1, 474 1, 364 3, 456 3, 456 14, 445 311 12, 524 1, 474 1, 474 3, 608 2, 113 12, 524 1, 474 3, 608 3, 158 3, 311 4, 674 3, 608 3, 158 3, 1	2. 14 1. 83 2. 22 3. 051 3. 70 2. 50 2. 50 2. 29 2. 28 2. 41 2. 41 2. 91 3. 03 2. 23 2. 36 3. 77 2. 21 2. 48 3. 16 2. 52 2. 30 2. 20 2. 20 2. 95	sands 3, 401 1, 500 34, 898 7, 284 8, 887 8, 886 2, 510 3, 021 58, 008 39, 175 58, 008 39, 175 59, 221 31, 485 4, 229 2, 868 8, 250 11, 781 31, 558 2, 096 69, 425 12, 499 12, 788 1, 566 77, 632 11, 1 9 7, 741 45, 646 831 11, 1 9 7, 741 11, 888 1, 963 2, 778 11, 1 9 1, 774 11, 888 1, 963 2, 778 11, 1 9 1, 741 11, 888 1, 1, 888 1, 1, 888 1, 1, 888 1, 902 20, 385 4, 202 3, 385 4, 202 3, 385 4, 202 4, 202 4, 202 4, 202 5, 202 6, 202 7, 202 8,	58. 7 75. 9 65. 1 62. 1 5 65. 2 63. 5 69. 8 59. 2 7 64. 1 56. 8 63. 5 63. 9 64. 7 61. 0 63. 9 74. 5 63. 9 64. 7 61. 8 61. 8 63. 5 63. 9 64. 8 61. 5 68. 8 69. 7 60. 9 60. 9	sands 2, 316 5, 591 1, 207 22, 719 4, 523 5, 466 5, 466 4, 473 1, 594 2, 664 1, 788 33, 271 25, 111 33, 638 39, 271 27, 702 7, 622 19, 230 11, 562 43, 304 43, 304 43, 304 61, 762 611 6, 606 6, 881 4, 527 1, 815 4, 527 1, 815 1, 451 1, 451 1	sands 463 118 118 244 905 1,093 895 319 533 388 5,022 6,728 6,728 6,728 106 116 379 1,054 4,417 312 8,609 8,609 1,524 1,524 1,524 1,524 1,524 1,525 1,321 1,	sands 1, 853 473 473 473 473 4, 853 473 4, 3	sands 10, 773 1, 015 10, 318 22, 223 5, 393 4, 175 2, 525 2, 763 3, 317 37, 622 29, 482 55, 883 16, 181 6, 181 6, 238 3, 796 6, 238 3, 796 6, 238 3, 796 20, 579 20, 579 21, 586 22, 0, 579 23, 324 4, 175 26, 735 33, 370 19, 921 4, 790 24, 800 24, 800 24, 800 24, 800 26, 674 16, 181 17, 335 33, 370 19, 921 4, 790 24, 800 24, 800 26, 674 610, 868 5, 333 1, 672 16, 746 10, 868 5, 333 1, 672 11, 357	17. 2 46. 6 9. 4 81. 8 67. 1 104. 7 141. 7 46. 1 183. 5 68. 1 53. 6 44. 6 13. 4 47. 5 59. 9 104. 0 91. 0 91. 0 92. 0 54. 4 62. 2 63. 1 63. 6 64. 6 66. 6 66. 6 66. 6 66. 6 66. 6 66. 6 67. 6 68. 6

¹ Column 1 is based on hatchery capacity as shown on the mailing list of the National Commercial and Breeder Hatchery Coordinating Committee.

² Figures in columns 2 and 4 were calculated by Poultry Section, A. A. A., U. S. Department of Agriculture, from reports submitted by 1,263 representative hatcheries located throughout the country.

³ Column 6 is based on an estimate suggested by poultry specialists in the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

ture.

4 "Estimates of chickens and eggs, 1931–34", Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of

In an effort to ascertain more exactly the interstate character of the hatchery industry, questionnaires were sent to 2,351 hatcheries, or approximately one-sixth of all the hatcheries in the United States. The 595 usable replies received indicate that approximately one-third of all the hatcheries in the United States shipped baby chicks during the 1934 season to States other than the one in which they are located. A further analysis of these replies indicates that over 20 percent of all the chicks hatched by hatcheries in the United States were sold in and shipped to States other than the ones in which they were hatched. Tables 16 and 17 show the estimated percent of hatcheries doing interstate business and the estimated percent of baby chicks produced by hatcheries which moved in interstate commerce in 1934 on the basis of the 20 regions described in the preceding section.

Table 16.—Estimated percent of hatcheries in the United States doing interstate business in 1934, based on questionnaires from 595 hatcheries

[By 20 regions]

Region	States comprising the region	Percent of hatcheries in the region doing interstate business
1	Iowa Missouri Minnesota	36. 8 28. 6 47. 1 40. 0 50. 0 50. 0 28. 0 46. 7 24. 4 42. 1 25. 7 29. 4 35. 0 18. 5 30. 6 36. 0 23. 5 33. 3
Total, United States		33. 3

Table 17.—Estimated percent of baby chicks hatched in the United States moving in interstate commerce in 1934, based on questionnaires from 595 hatcheries

[By 20 regions]

Region	States comprising the region	Percent of chicks moving in inter- state com- merce out of the region
1	California	4.0
2	Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Wyom-	33. 4
0	ing, Montana.	
3	Texas, New Mexico	2.8
5	Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana	8.1
6	Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida	22. 6 27. 5
7	Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota	8.1
8	Kansas, Colorado	30. 8
9	New York, Vermont	8.0
10	Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Con-	49. 9
10	necticut.	20.0
11	Pennsylvania, West Virginia	19. 3
12	Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, District of Colum-	14.9
	bia.	
13	Ohio	30.3
14	Michigan	32. 5
15	Indiana	20.0
16	Illinois	14. 1
17	Iowa	15, 2
18	Missouri	38. 8
19	Minnesota	
20	Wisconsin	1. 1
Total, United States		20. 98

The results of this analysis are in close agreement with the results of other studies made from time to time by State and other institutions. For example, a study conducted in 1930 in Iowa ⁸ indicated that approximately 29 percent of all the hatcheries in Iowa shipped chicks to States outside of that State. The results of this study indicate that 30.6 percent of all hatcheries in Iowa did interstate business in 1934.

For the United States as a whole the percentage of chicks shipped in interstate commerce to the total number of chicks produced by hatcheries was only 20 percent, yet some of the larger hatcheries shipped over 50 percent of their total production to other States. It can be seen, therefore, that interstate transportation of chicks is an important characteristic of the commercial and breeder hatchery industry.

FUNCTIONS OF HATCHERIES

Regardless of whether a hatchery is classified as a commercial hatchery or breeder hatchery or designated as a dealer or as one which is essentially a combination of types, it may perform any one or all of several functions.

In the first place, an efficient hatchery provides for an adequate and dependable source of egg supply. This may mean that the hatchery will contract with poultry producers for quantities of selected eggs to be delivered at specified periods. The hatchery which produces a dependable product will pay a substantial premium for these eggs in addition to the prevailing market price in consideration of a special quality and for special matings. Such a plan may entail

⁸ Does Iowa Need More Hatcheries? A survey of Iowa commercial chick hatcheries, by W. D. Termohlen, Iowa State College of Agriculture, Ames, Iowa, 1930, p. 7.

considerable supervision of the poultryman's flock by the hatchery in an effort to secure egg quality which will result in a higher hatchability and a superior quality chick.

On the other hand, a hatchery may own the flocks which supply a part or all of its egg requirements, and will spend considerable time and money on disease prevention and flock improvement programs.

Reports from 683 hatcheries indicate that, for the country as a whole, about 54.3 percent of all the hatcheries obtained at least a part of their total egg supply from their own flocks. However, only 17.4 percent of all the eggs set for hatching were produced by the flocks owned by hatcheries which set these eggs.

Table 18.—Percent of 683 hatcheries which own poultry flocks, and the percent of eggs set which were produced by hatchery-owned flocks in 1934

[By 10 regions]									
Region	Percent of hatcheries which own flocks	Percent of eggs from own flocks to total eggs set	Region	Percent of hatcheries which own flocks	Percent of eggs from own flocks to total eggs set				
1	71, 8 42, 3 62, 5 32, 7 82, 4 65, 6	34. 0 19. 4 21. 2 7. 2 27. 6 23. 3	7	45. 8 42. 4 34. 4 56. 4	5. 1 9. 4 3. 1 20. 5				

[By 10 regions]

The importance of eggs from hatchery-owned flocks varies considerably from region to region. In regions 9, 7, 4, and 8, which comprise the States of heaviest farm poultry production in the midwest, eggs from hatchery-owned flocks are only of minor importance. On the other hand, in regions 1, 5, and 6, which comprise the States of commercial poultry production on the Pacific coast, in the New England States and New York, and the Middle Atlantic States, eggs from the hatchery-owned flocks constitute a very significant part of all the eggs set for hatching. In the two regions making up the Southern States (regions 2 and 3), and also in Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin (region 10), the eggs from flocks owned by the hatcheries also represent a considerable part of the total egg supply.

Table 19.—Percent of 683 hatcheries which own poultry flocks, and the percent of eggs set which were produced by hatchery-owned flocks in 1934

[By capacity classes]

(Dy capacity classes)									
Capacity groups	Percent of hatcheries which own flocks	Percent of eggs from own flocks to total eggs set	Capacity groups	Percent of hatcheries which own flocks	Percent of eggs from own flocks to total eggs set				
Under 10,000	83. 7 47. 7 47. 5 32. 9 27. 7	68. 7 34. 4 24. 9 14. 4 13. 9	100,000 to 199,999 200,000 to 499,999 500,000 and over All capacity groups.	26. 1 21. 4 33. 3 54. 3	11. 2 11. 4 1. 9 17. 4				

As would be expected, the importance of eggs supplied by hatcheryowned flocks varies in direct relationship with the size of the hatchery. Hatcheries in the largest class as a rule buy practically all of their eggs; hatcheries in the smallest class usually own poultry flocks and obtain over two-thirds of their total egg supply from their own flocks. Even in the case of hatcheries of the very largest capacity, a considerable proportion own poultry flocks although they may furnish

only a small part of all the eggs used.

After the source of egg supply is established, either by contract with poultry producers, or an egg broker, or by maintaining flocks of its own, the hatchery is ready to perform its primary function, namely, that of hatching baby chicks, baby ducklings, or turkey poults by means of artificial incubation. Hatcheries may do such hatching at their own risk by setting their own eggs and soliciting customers for the baby chicks, or they may hire out their services and their equipment to poultry producers, undertaking to set the producers' eggs for incubation for a stipulated remuneration, turning over to the producers whatever chicks will hatch out of the eggs supplied by them.

This service is commonly known in the trade as custom hatching. Indeed, most hatcheries do both hatching at their own risk and custom hatching. All told, 13.7 percent of the eggs set by the 683 hatcheries reporting were set for custom hatching, although only 6.2 percent of the total income of hatcheries was received from this source. The importance of custom hatching varies in different sections of the

country as may be seen from table 20.

Table 20.—Percent of eggs custom hatched to total eggs set by 683 hatcheries in 1934
[By 10 regions]

Region	Percent of eggs custom hatched to total eggs set	Region	Percent of eggs custom hatched to total eggs set	Region	Percent of eggs custom hatched to total eggs set
1 2	9. 2 31. 4 16. 8 27. 6	5 6	3. 3 14. 4 8. 9 12. 8	9 10 All regions	19. 4 19. 1 13. 7

Table 21.—Percent of eggs custom hatched to total eggs set by 683 hatcheries in 1934

[By capacity classes]

Capacity group	Percent of eggs custom hatched to total eggs set	Capacity group	Percent of eggs custom hatched to total eggs set
Under 10,000_ 10,000 to 24,999	18. 2 22. 6 21. 9 24. 9 16. 0	100,000 to 199,999	8. 9 3. 5

¹ Less than 1.0.

The percentage of custom hatching in the different regions varied from only 3.3 percent of the total number of eggs set in region 5 (New England States and New York) to 31.4 percent in region 2 (South Central States). In regions 1 (Pacific coast and far western States), 7 (Ohio), and 5, less than 10 percent of all eggs set were custom hatched. On the other hand, more than 25 percent of the eggs set were custom hatched in region 2 and in region 4 (Northwestern States).

Custom hatching represented a much larger proportion of total hatching in the case of small hatcheries than in the case of large hatcheries, and there was a tendency for the proportion of eggs custom hatched to decrease as the size of hatcheries increased. However, the very small hatcheries did less custom hatching than those with

capacities between 10,000 and 60,000.

In addition to hatching baby chicks, many hatcheries also brood the chicks and sell them started, that is, after they are fed and watered. Many hatcheries specialize in this activity and sell considerable numbers of older chicks, although as a general rule this operation is carried on merely because purchase orders are not at hand when the chicks are hatched. For the 683 hatcheries reporting, 4.5 percent of their income was received from the sale of started chicks.

Hatcheries also buy chicks from other hatcheries for resale and frequently deal in hatching eggs, poultry feed, and poultry equipment and supplies.

The sale of merchandise, not including chicks or eggs, accounted

for 5.3 percent of the total income of the 683 hatcheries.

Table 22, showing average sources of hatchery income as reported by 683 hatcheries, indicates the relative importance of the several hatchery functions in the different regions.

Table 22.—Sources of hatchery income for 683 hatcheries in 1934
[By 10 regions]

Region	Income from sale of baby chicks	Income from sale of started chicks	Income from custom hatching	Income from sale of various merchan- dise	Income from mis- cellaneous source	Total income
1	Percent of total 88.4 4 63.0 67.6 65.9 96.7 83.8 80.9 80.9 72.3 71.4	Percent of total 3.1 10.8 8.5 5.6 .9 4.9 8.6 3.0 5.9 5.0	Percent of total 4.1 17.7 7.6 13.4 1.3 6.6 4.5 6.2 9.1 9.5	Percent of total 1.6 7.6 7.6 15.2 13.0 .4 3.3 3.5 7.3 8.9 11.2	Percent of total 2.8 .9 1.1 2.1 .7 1.4 2.5 2.6 3.8 2.8	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

Table 22 indicates, for example, that the sale of started chicks was an activity of considerable importance in the Southern States (regions 2 and 3) and in Ohio (region 7), while in New England States and New York (region 5), in Indiana and Illinois (region 8), and on the Pacific coast (region 1), it was of very minor importance. Custom hatching was particularly important in the South Central States (region 2), and also in the Northwestern States (region 4), but again neither in New England nor on the Pacific coast was this a significant source of income.

In several regions, notably 3 (Southeastern States), 4 (Northwestern States), and 10 (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin), the sale of supplies and other merchandise accounted for quite an appreciable

percentage of total income.

In the New England States and New York the various hatchery activities, other than the sale of baby chicks, were of very minor importance. Only 3.3 percent of the total income of hatcheries in New England was derived from such activities. In the far western and Pacific coast States (region 1), only 11.6 percent of the total income of hatcheries was obtained from activities other than the sale of baby chicks. On the other hand, in South Central States, 37 percent of the total hatchery income was derived from such activities as custom hatching, selling started chicks, and trade in various accessories. Also, the income from miscellaneous operations accounted for 34.1 percent of the total hatchery income in the Northeastern States (region 4), and 32.4 percent in the Southeastern States (region 3).

This information is shown graphically in figure 7, where the various sources of hatchery income are shown in relation to the total income

from all hatchery operations.

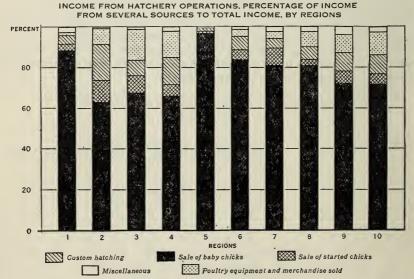


FIGURE 7.—Sources of hatchery income, 1934, by 10 regions

HATCHING EFFICIENCY

The efficiency of hatching operations depends upon a number of factors. In this study, however, only two of the most important factors will be considered. These two factors are hatchability and the utilization of egg-setting capacity.

HATCHABILITY

When a hen sets on the number of eggs she can conveniently cover it is not uncommon for her to hatch every single egg. With artificial incubation, however, 100 percent hatching seldom occurs. A certain number of eggs show no germ growth, others partially develop the embryo but die before reaching the stage where the chick breaks its way out of the shell, and still others do not hatch into salable chicks. When we divide the total number of salable chicks hatched by the total number of eggs set we get the percentage of hatchability.

This hatchability depends on the quality and inherent tendencies in the egg and the outside factors which are under the control of the hatchery operator. Such factors include care in handling and turning the eggs, age of the eggs when placed in the incubator, and temperature and humidity during the process. Efficiency in management goes a long way toward control of such conditions, yet it is possible for an efficient hatchery to obtain a rather low percentage of hatchability for the season. This plant may specialize in a breed or strain of chicks that has inherited poor hatchability, or it may produce very early or very late chicks which are known to show a lower hatchability than chicks produced in nature's favorite season—the spring months. The equipment may be inefficient or difficult to regulate and thus the number of living chicks may be reduced. In spite of all these handicaps the hatchery may yield the owner a profit which would make it inadvisable for him to change his breed of chicks, his date of hatching, or his incubator equipment.

In the final analysis, the purchase price of the eggs and the percentage of hatchability determine the egg cost per chick. For example, if the hatcheryman buys eggs for setting at \$3 per 100 and if his percentage of hatchability is 50 percent, it would be necessary for him to set 200 eggs for every 100 chicks and his egg cost per 100 chicks would be \$6. If, on the other hand, his hatchability is 70 percent, the cost of the same eggs would be only about \$4.29 per 100 chicks hatched. This, of course, should furnish a powerful incentive to the hatcheryman to increase his efficiency to the highest possible point in order to obtain a higher percentage of hatchability and thus lower his egg cost per 100 chicks hatched.

The 683 hatcheries, the operations of which are analyzed in this study, reported percentages of hatchability ranging from 32.8 percent to 93.2 percent. However, in spite of this wide range, there is a definite tendency for these percentages of hatchability to group somewhere around 60 to 70 percent. Table 23 shows the average percentage of hatchability for hatcheries in different regions. average hatchability for each region was calculated by dividing the total number of chicks hatched by the total number of eggs set as reported by all the hatcheries in the region answering the questionnaires. The second column shows the lowest as well as the highest percentage of hatchability for each region.

Table 23.—Percent of chicks hatched to number of eggs set in 683 hatcheries, 1934 [By 10 regions]

_	Region	Percent of chicks hatched to eggs set	Range in per- cent of chicks hatched to eggs set	Region	Percent of chicks hatched to eggs set	Range in per- cent of chicks hatched to eggs set
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.		63. 7 65. 0 66. 8 64. 7 65. 4 62. 5	42. 0-93. 2 42. 7-92. 9 42. 7-81. 0 46. 3-78. 2 49. 8-88. 2 32. 8-88. 7	8	64. 9 66. 8 60. 5 62. 2	36. 7–89. 3 38. 7–87. 5 38. 4–83. 6 40. 2–75. 4 32. 8–93. 2

The average percentages of hatchability show so little variation from region to region that for all practical purposes the differences may be considered insignificant. Region 9, which is comprised of Iowa and Missouri, had a somewhat lower average hatchability than the other regions, while region 3 (the Southeastern States) and region 8, which is comprised of the States of Indiana and Illinois, showed the highest average hatchability. Serious drought conditions in sections west of the Mississippi in all probability lowered the percentage of hatchability in these regions during 1934.

In table 24 the average hatchability of hatcheries is classified

according to capacity groups.

Table 24.—Percent of chicks hatched to number of eggs set in 683 hatcheries, 1934
[By capacity classes]

Capacity groups	Percent of chicks hatched to eggs set	Range in per- cent of chicks hatched to eggs set	Capacity groups	Percent of chicks hatched to eggs set	Range in per- cent of chicks hatched to eggs set
Under 10,000 10,000 to 24,999 25,000 to 39,999 40,000 to 59,999 60,000 to 99,999	61. 6 62. 0 62. 3 62. 7 62. 4	32, 8-88, 5 39, 1-89, 3 1 38, 4-93, 2 1 41, 4-92, 9 46, 3-75, 6	100,000 to 199,999 200,000 to 499,999 500,000 and over All capacity groups	68. 0 65. 9 64. 0	52, 2-79, 7 54, 8-76, 5 61, 9-70, 9 32, 8-93, 2

¹ Of the 2 hatcheries reporting the remarkably high percentages of hatchability of 93.2 percent and 92.9 percent, one is located on the Pacific coast and the other one in the South.

This table shows that there was a decided tendency for the percentage of hatchability to increase gradually as the capacity of the hatcheries increased. The highest percentage of hatchability was found in hatcheries with capacities ranging from one to two hundred thousand. This fact is perhaps significant because it is the hatcheries of this size which require the full-time attention of one man. The percentage of hatchability began to drop again for hatcheries with more than 200,000 capacity, but remained higher than for hatcheries with less than 100,000 capacity. It is also significant that the range in hatchability, or the difference between the lowest and the highest percentage of hatchability in any one group, showed a tendency to become narrower as the capacity of the hatcheries increased. In other words, the range in the large capacity groups was not as large as it was in the smaller ones.

UTILIZATION OF EGG SETTING CAPACITY

Another important factor determining the efficiency of hatchery operations is the number of times the total capacity of the hatchery

is utilized during the hatching season.

The incubation period lasts 21 days. This in itself places a rather definite limitation upon the possible utilization of the setting capacity. In most sections of the country the hatching season rarely begins before late February and usually ends about the beginning of June. Efforts are made by some hatcheries to extend the hatching season further into the summer and back into the winter. But, for the country as a whole, the duration of the hatching season is still only from 3 to 4 months—that is, from 90 to 120 days. An efficient, wide-awake hatcheryman should then be able to utilize his setting capacity from 4½ to 6 times during the normal hatching season.

In practice, however, we find that the utilization of setting capacity varied widely from one hatchery to another within any one region. The variation was also very considerable when average figures for the different regions were compared. For example, the 683 hatcheries showed a variation in the utilization of setting capacity from 0.27 to 8.69. This means that some of the hatcheries did not utilize their capacity even once, but throughout the season set less than half of their capacity, while other hatcheries utilized their capacity more than eight times. In other words, with a given capacity of 10,000 eggs, the hatchery with the lowest percentage of utilization would set only 2,700 eggs throughout the season, while the hatchery with the highest rate of capacity utilization would set 86,900 eggs.

Table 25 illustrates how the average rate of capacity utilization varied from region to region. It also shows the range between the lowest and highest rates of utilization in each of the regions. The average for each region was obtained by dividing the total number of

eggs set by the total setting capacity of the region.

Table 25.—Utilization of setting capacity in 683 hatcheries in 1934
[By 10 regions]

Region	A verage number of eggs set per unit of capacity	Range in number of eggs set per unit of capacity	Region	Average number of eggs set per unit of capacity	Range in number of eggs set per unit of capacity
1	2. 31 1. 60 2. 75 2. 42 2. 22 3. 11	0. 75–6. 37 . 27–4. 73 1. 08–7. 54 . 72–7. 62 . 77–5. 24 . 50–8. 69	7	2. 81 2. 60 3. 32 2. 39 2. 77	0. 86-6. 54 . 86-5. 48 . 89-5. 48 1. 01-4. 98

As the table indicates, the rate of capacity utilization for the

country as a whole was 2.77.9

Region 9 (Iowa and Missouri) has the highest average rate of capacity utilization. In these States, on the average of 3.32 eggs were set for each unit of capacity. Region 6 (North Atlantic States) also used its capacity quite efficiently, which was probably due, at least to some extent, to a double hatching season because of the winter broiler season and the spring flock replacement season. Hatcheries in the South Central States (region 2) set, on the average, only 1.6 eggs for each unit of capacity. Both the lowest and the highest rates of utilization reported for the South Central States were quite a bit lower than the respective lowest and highest rates of capacity utilization reported by other regions. Two hatcheries in the South Central States reported a rate of utilization lower than 0.5, which means that

⁹ This estimated rate of capacity utilization, along with the estimated percentage of hatchability discussed on preceding pages, makes it possible to estimate roughly in the following manner the number of chicks hatched during the season:

Given an estimated setting capacity for the United States. 276.00

Multiplied by the estimated rate of utilization. 277.00

Gives the estimated number of eggs set. 764.52

Adjusting by the estimated preentage of hatchability. 64.0

Gives the estimated number of salable chicks hatched. 489.29

Making an estimated adjustment for mortality on farms. 20.0

Deducting the estimated allowance for mortality. 97.86

Will give an estimated number of young chickens raised which were supplied by hatcheries 391.43

10 A unit of capacity is, of course, reckoned in terms of one egg.

if these hatcheries had a capacity of 10,000 eggs, they set, throughout the season, less than 5,000 eggs each. The highest rate of utilization reported for this region was 4.73. This would mean that if this hatchery had a capacity of 10,000 eggs, it would set 47,300 eggs during the season. This low utilization of capacity may be one of the important factors responsible for the fact that only 75 percent of the hatcheries in this region reported a profit for their 1934 operations.

Table 26 shows variations in the utilization of setting capacity,

according to the size of hatcheries.

Table 26.—Utilization of setting capacity in 683 hatcheries in 1934
[By capacity classes]

Capacity group	Average number of eggs set per unit of capacity	Range in number of eggs set per unit of capacity	Capacity group	Average number of eggs set per unit of capacity	Range in number of eggs set per unit of capacity
Under 10,000	2. 74 2. 50 2. 61 2. 46 2. 33	0. 75–6. 54 . 50–8. 69 . 72–7. 37 . 40–4. 73 . 27–7. 62	100,000 to 199,999	2. 57 3. 25 (1) 2. 77	1. 44–5, 79 1. 82–5, 48 (1) . 27–8. 69

¹ Only 3 hatcheries reported.

The variation from one capacity group to another is not as significant as the range of variation within any one capacity group. On the whole, there seems to be some indication that in hatcheries with more than 200,000 egg capacity the rate of utilization of setting capacity was greater than in smaller hatcheries. Another interesting fact is that no hatchery with a capacity of more than 100,000 eggs reported a lower rate of capacity utilization than 1.4. However, many of the smaller hatcheries showed a higher rate of utilization than some of the very large hatcheries reporting.

The economic importance of the utilization of setting capacity becomes at once apparent from a study of cost data. A good many of the items of cost such as rent, depreciation charges on equipment, interest, taxes, insurance, and to some extent even managerial labor, do not tend to increase proportionately with an increasing volume of business. It is estimated that these items of cost amount to from 10 to 20 percent of the total cost. It is therefore obvious that a greater utilization of setting capacity will result in lower operating

costs per unit.

THE COST OF CHICK PRODUCTION

Any consideration of the cost of producing chicks must take into account the significant difference between hatching chicks commercially and doing custom hatching. In this study the costs of the two types of operation are considered separately.

COST OF COMMERCIAL HATCHING

Figures showing average costs of hatching chicks are of value to hatcherymen because such figures provide them with some basis for comparing their efficiency with that of other hatchery operators.

Several studies have been made at various times to determine the average cost of hatching chicks. However, it is generally realized that average cost figures published in previous studies are rather limited in their use because, as a rule, they reflect conditions only in certain sections of the country, usually only one State, and because, in almost every case, they are based on the cost figures of only a few hatcheries. In order to avoid these limitations, an effort was made to include in this study reports from a sufficient number of hatcheries to supply a fairly adequate sample comprised of hatcheries of various sizes and from every section in the country.

Variability of Costs

The most significant facts observed in the analysis of the reports from 683 hatcheries on their costs of operation during the 1934 hatching season are (1) that there was an extremely wide variation in costs from one hatchery to another, and (2) that this variation cannot be satisfactorily explained, either by the geographical location or by the

size of the hatcheries.

The average cost of hatching chicks during the 1934 season for the country as a whole, as indicated by this study, was \$7.02 per 100 chicks, and yet, the costs to individual hatcheries ranged from somewhat less than \$4.50 to more than \$14 per 100. The principal element of hatching cost is, of course, the cost of eggs which are set for incubation. Therefore, the wide difference in costs should not be surprising since it may be largely accounted for by differences in egg cost and may be closely related to an intangible asset which is the quality of chicks hatched.

The hatchery which specializes in high quality chicks and pays 5 cents for each egg would naturally have a much higher cost than hatcheries which pay only 1 cent per egg. This difference in the cost of eggs has not been given adequate consideration in earlier studies because they covered only local areas in which fairly uniform egg costs prevail. The relationship between the prices paid for eggs and the total cost of hatching chicks will be considered in greater detail

later.

Since there was this wide variation in costs from one hatchery to another, it was impossible to calculate one average cost figure which could be entirely representative of actual conditions even when such averages were calculated separately for hatcheries in the different regions and in the several capacity groups. Therefore, in order to make such average cost figures as useful as possible, two different averages were calculated.

In the first place, an average cost figure for each region was computed as follows: The costs of all the hatcheries in each region were added and this figure was divided by the total number of chicks hatched in the region. The result provided figures which are listed in table 27

under the heading "Average cost per 100 chicks."

The second average, shown in table 27 under the heading "Average of individual costs per 100 chicks", was figured by determining the cost of producing 100 chicks in each individual hatchery. These costs of individual hatcheries were then added and the sum divided by the number of hatcheries reporting.

The first of these averages is a more correct representation of the cost of hatching the majority of chicks in a given area while the second shows the average costs for the largest number of hatcheries in the region. The difference between these two averages is in itself a rather

significant indication of the variability of costs.

In addition to the average of costs of individual hatcheries, the table shows the range within which the costs of approximately two-thirds of the reporting hatcheries fall. This range, being wide, gives another indication of the extreme variability of costs. Although the average of individual costs for the United States as a whole was \$6.85 per 100 chicks, about two-thirds of the 683 reporting hatcheries had costs ranging anywhere from \$4.94 to \$8.76. The remaining one-third showed costs either higher than \$8.76 or lower than \$4.94 per 100.

Table 27.—Average cost of producing 100 chicks in 683 hatcheries in 1934
[By 10 regions]

			lividual hatch- averaged
· Region	A verage cost per 100 chicks	Average of individual costs per 100 chicks	Range within which average costs of approx- imately % of the reporting hatcheries
1	\$8. 54	\$7.43	\$5. 67-\$9. 19
2	6. 11	6. 29	4. 99- 7. 59
3	6. 88	7. 49	5. 63- 9. 35
4	5. 82	5. 96	4. 78- 7. 14
56	7. 81 6. 83	8. 94 6. 72	6. 59-11. 29
6	6, 80	6, 66	5. 00- 8. 44 4. 98- 8. 34
8	6. 03	6. 15	4. 75- 7. 55
9	6. 31	6. 08	4. 37- 7. 79
10	6. 53	6. 79	5. 35- 8. 23
All regions	7. 02	6. 85	4. 94-8. 76

The figures in table 27 shown in the column "Average costs per 100 chicks" are, as a matter of fact, weighted averages. If the majority of chicks hatched in the region were produced at a comparatively high cost, the average costs for the region were higher than the average of the costs of individual hatcheries. The converse is, of course, equally true. It can be seen, for instance, that on the Pacific coast (region 1) the hatcheries producing the largest number of chicks had higher costs than other hatcheries in this region. As a matter of fact, among the reports received from this region, two were from very large hatcheries whose costs of production were considerably higher than the costs of the smaller hatcheries. That is why the average cost for region 1 as a whole was \$8.54 per 100 chicks or \$1.11 higher than the average of individual costs for this region. To a much lesser extent, this was also true of regions 6, 7, and 9, as well as of the country as a whole.

On the other hand, in regions 5 and 3, the average for the region was lower than the average of individual costs. This means that the hatcheries producing the majority of chicks in these regions had comparatively lower costs. One very large hatchery in region 5 reported a considerably lower cost than the average of the

other hatcheries in this region, thus reducing the average cost for the region as a whole. This same condition was also true to a much lesser extent in regions 2, 4, 8, and 10. The differences between these two averages in 7 of the 10 regions is apparently not very

significant.

The variations in chick costs from region to region are very largely due to the difference in prices paid for eggs. Hatcheries in New England States and New York (region 5) and on the Pacific coast (region 1) reported higher chick costs primarily because they paid relatively higher prices for their eggs. Hatcheries in the Northwest (region 4) reported the lowest chick cost, primarily because they had low egg costs, and chick costs were also low in the other regions where egg costs were low.

Table 28 presents similar averages calculated on the basis of the several capacity groups. The same procedure was used here as in

table 27.

Table 28.—Average cost of producing 100 chicks in 683 hatcheries in 1934
[By capacity classes]

(
		Costs of individual hatcheries averaged		
Capacity group		Average of individual costs per 100 chicks	imately 3/3 of	
Under 10,000 10,000 to 24,999 25,000 to 39,999 40,000 to 59,999 60,000 to 99,999 100,000 to 199,999 200,000 to 499,999 500,000 and over	\$6. 72 6. 80 6. 64 6. 79 6. 83 6. 64 6. 82 8. 58	\$6. 74 6. 88 6. 77 6. 89 7. 21 6. 59 6. 94 10. 47	\$4. 69-\$8. 79 5. 03- 8. 73 4. 99- 8. 55 5. 08- 8. 70 5. 42- 9. 00 4. 94- 8. 24 6. 01- 7. 87 (1)	
All capacity groups	7. 02	6. 85	4. 94- 8. 76	

¹ Sample inadequate.

From this table it can be seen that there are only a few significant differences between the figures in the column "Average cost per 100 chicks" where average costs for a capacity group as a whole are shown, and the figures shown in the column "Average of individual costs per 100 chicks" where an average of the costs of individual hatcheries is presented. Only three usable reports were received from hatcheries with over 500,000 capacity and these three hatcheries are located in regions where egg costs are high. It appears that the size of the hatcheries had very little to do with the cost of hatching chicks.

Elements of Cost

The cost of eggs, labor costs, and such overhead items as rent, depreciation, insurance, interest, taxes, and repairs usually account for over three-fourths of the total cost of hatching chicks. The remaining 25 percent is accounted for by such items as advertising, flock improvement, boxes and supplies, heat, light and power, telephone and telegraph, postage, and delivery expenses.

The importance of egg cost as an element of total cost has been previously stressed and will be further discussed in the next section. Egg cost as used here is not the original cost of the eggs, but the proportionate part of total chick cost which is chargeable against eggs, including the necessary allowance for eggs which do not hatch.

Labor costs are generally second in importance only to egg costs. As presented here they include not only all labor and salary items, figured at not less than the minimum rates set forth in the code for the commercial and breeder hatchery industry, but also managerial salary and all family labor. Family labor is frequently a very important item of cost to hatcheries. Some hatcheries which neglect to give family labor due consideration in determining their cost of hatching chicks may show a profit on their operations, when, as a matter of fact, they may actually be losing money. In this study, therefore, only the reports which appeared to include all family labor along with

other labor costs were used.

A careful analysis of the 683 individual reports made it clear that the particular items of expense vary greatly from one hatchery to another. Any average of such individual elements of cost would be of very little value for the purpose of comparing the particular cost items of one hatchery with an average of these costs for a number of other hatcheries. It was, therefore, decided to group together the items of cost which show very little variation from month to month for a particular hatchery, regardless of the amount of business done. Such items of nonvariable expense may not be the same in the case of all hatcheries, but in the great majority of cases these items are rent, depreciation, 11 interest, taxes, insurance, and repairs. believed that, as a general rule, these items of cost remain more or less fixed, regardless of the volume of business done.

Tables 29 and 30 show the average cost of hatching 100 chicks broken down according to egg cost, labor cost, nonvariable costs, and all other costs. The first of these tables presents this information by regions, and the second by capacity groups. Since many hatcheries do custom hatching for hire, in addition to regular commercial hatching, it has been necessary to make some adjustment for this factor in the calculation of commercial hatching costs, other than This adjustment was made by subtracting from the total of these cost items a proportionate amount of expense chargeable against custom hatching. The proportionate amount of expense was determined on the basis of the percentage of eggs set for custom hatch-

ing to the total number of eggs set in each region.

¹¹ The rates of depreciation as used in this report are as follows:

Stone or concrete buildings, 2 percent; brick buildings, 2½ percent; frame buildings, 5 percent; incubators and hatchery equipment, 8 percent; office equipment, 7 percent; delivery equipment, 17½ percent.

These rates of depreciation were applied to the purchase price of buildings and equipment as reported by the hatcheries and this made it possible to use a uniform method in determining depreciation costs for all the hetelories.

Table 29.—Elements of cost of doing commercial hatching in 683 hatcheries in 1934

[By 10 regions]

	Egg cost		Labo			Relatively non- variable costs		All other costs		Total cost	
Region	Per 100 chicks hatched	Per- cent of total cost	Per 100 chicks hatched	Per- cent of total cost	Per 100 chicks hatched	Per- cent of total cost	Per 100 chicks hatched	Per- cent of total cost	Per 100 chicks hatched	Per- cent	
1	\$3. 87 2. 55 3. 68 2. 83 5. 14 3. 93 3. 15 2. 73 2. 95 3. 20	45. 3 41. 7 53. 5 48. 6 65. 8 57. 5 46. 4 45. 3 46. 8 49. 0	\$1. 85 1. 70 1. 40 1. 29 . 76 1. 13 1. 31 1. 17 1. 22 1. 34	21. 7 27. 8 20. 3 22. 2 9. 7 16. 5 19. 3 19. 4 19. 3 20. 5	\$0. 97 . 98 . 79 . 70 . 44 . 59 . 52 . 54 . 58 . 75	11. 3 16. 0 11. 5 12. 0 5. 6 8. 6 7. 6 9. 0 9. 2 11. 5	\$1. 85 . 88 1. 01 1. 00 1. 47 1. 18 1. 82 1. 59 1. 56 1. 24	21. 7 14. 5 14. 7 17. 2 18. 9 17. 4 26. 7 26. 3 24. 7 19. 0	\$8. 54 6. 11 6. 88 5. 82 7. 81 6. 83 6. 80 6. 03 6. 31 6. 53	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	
All regions	3. 55	50. 6	1. 29	18.4	. 65	9. 3	1. 53	21. 7	7.02	100	

Table 29 shows the elements of hatching cost. It indicates that for the country as a whole the average egg cost per 100 chicks was just about 50 percent of the average total cost. There was, however, a variation in egg costs from \$2.55 per hundred chicks, or 41.7 percent of the average total cost, in region 2 (South Central States), to \$5.14 per hundred chicks, or 65.8 percent in region 5 (New York and New England States).

COST OF PRODUCING AND AVERAGE SELLING PRICE OF 100 CHICKS

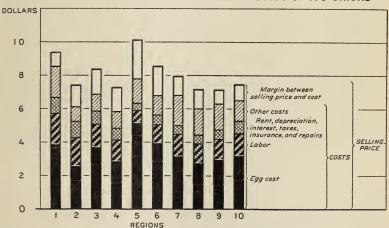


FIGURE 8.—The different elements o' hatching cost and the margin between the average cost of producing 100 chicks and the average selling price, by 10 regions, 1934.

Labor costs for the country as a whole were \$1.29 per 100 chicks or 18.4 percent of total costs. These costs accounted for a larger percentage of total cost in region 2 (South Central States) and a much smaller percentage of total cost in region 5 (New York and New England States) than in any other regions. The region having the highest egg cost had the lowest labor cost, and that the one where egg cost was lowest had the next to the highest labor cost.

Nonvariable costs also differed considerably from region to region. The nonvariable costs were highest also in the region where egg cost was lowest, and lowest where the egg cost was highest. For the country as a whole, nonvariable costs amounted to \$0.65 per 100 chicks or 9.3 percent of the average total cost. There was, however, a variation between different regions ranging from 5.6 percent to 16 percent.

All other costs also showed considerable variation from region to region, but for the country as a whole they amounted to about 20

percent of the average total cost.

This information is shown graphically by regions in figure 8. This chart shows the margin between selling price and total cost as well as the various elements of cost. The total height of the columns represents the selling price per 100 chicks in the various regions.

Information in regard to the elements of cost is presented in table

30 according to the several capacity groups.

Table 30.—Elements of cost of doing commercial hatching in 683 hatcheries in 1934
[By capacity classes]

	Egg	Egg cost Labor cost		cost	Relatively nonvariable costs		All other costs		Total cost	
Capacity group	Per 100 chicks hatched	Per- cent of total cost	Per 100 chicks hatched	Per- cent of total cost	Per 100 chicks hatched	Per- cent of total cost	Per 100 chicks hatched	Per- cent of total cost	Per 100 chicks hatched	Per- cent
Under 10,000 10,000 to 24,999 25,000 to 39,999 40,000 to 59,999 60,000 to 99,999 100,000 to 199,999 200,000 to 499,999 500,000 and over	\$3. 47 3. 54 3. 50 3. 39 3. 47 3. 36 2. 99 4. 83	51. 6 52. 1 52. 7 49. 9 50. 8 50. 6 43. 8 56. 3	\$1. 42 1. 48 1. 41 1. 40 1. 28 1. 28 1. 03 1. 31	21. 1 21. 8 21. 2 20. 6 18. 7 19. 3 15. 1 15. 3	\$0. 84 .77 .74 .69 .71 .59 .48 .63	12. 5 11. 3 11. 1 10. 2 10. 4 8. 9 7. 0 7. 3	\$0. 99 1. 01 . 99 1. 31 1. 37 1. 41 2. 32 1. 81	14. 8 14. 8 15. 0 19. 3 20. 1 21. 2 34. 1 21. 1	\$6. 72 6. 80 6. 64 6. 79 6. 83 6. 64 6. 82 8. 58	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100
All capacity groups	3. 55	50. 6	1. 29	18. 4	. 65	9.3	1. 53	21.7	7.02	100

There was no significant variation in the percentage of average egg cost per 100 chicks to average total cost that could be definitely associated with the size of hatcheries. The highest percentage of egg cost was shown by the largest hatcheries with a capacity of 500,000 eggs and over, while the lowest percentage of egg cost was shown by the hatcheries just one capacity class smaller than the largest ones—from 200,000 to 500,000 eggs. All other hatcheries showed very little variation in egg cost from one capacity group to another.

Labor costs show a very definite tendency to become proportionally smaller as the size of the hatcheries increased. The group of hatcheries with capacities ranging from 200,000 to 500,000 eggs showed the

lowest percentage of labor cost as well as of egg cost.

The nonvariable costs also showed a decided tendency to decrease proportionally as the size of the hatcheries increased. As in the case of egg cost and labor cost, this group of items of expense was also

lowest in the 200,000 to 500,000 capacity group.

Under "other costs" were grouped together such items as advertising and flock improvement, as well as numerous other miscellaneous expenses. These costs showed a very decided tendency to increase as the capacity of the hatcheries increased. Apparently, as the size of the hatcheries increased, larger and larger sums of money were ex-

pended in advertising, sales effort, and similar items. These costs showed a sharp increase from hatcheries with less than 200,000 capacity to those with capacities from 200,000 to 500,000. There was some decrease in these costs for the three hatcheries with the very largest

capacity.

For the country as a whole, then, bearing in mind the rather wide variation from region to region and from one capacity group to another, this study indicates that the cost of eggs was approximately 50 percent of the total cost, labor about 20 percent, the more or less nonvariable expenses about 10 percent, and miscellaneous expenses the remaining 20 percent of total cost.

RELATION OF EGG COST TO TOTAL COST

In considering the relation of egg cost to total cost it is first necessary to understand what enters into the total cost of eggs. There are three factors influencing the cost of eggs per chick hatched. These are (1) the market price of eggs, (2) the premium paid for eggs, and (3) the hatchability of the eggs. It is customary in the hatchery industry to pay premiums for hatching eggs over and above the market price of eggs. These premiums to a large extent are reflected in the quality and genetic characteristics of the chicks produced. In some cases these premiums are paid on a sliding scale depending on the hatchability of the eggs. As previously noted, the percent of salable chicks hatched has a direct bearing on the cost of eggs per chick hatched. Hatchability is, therefore, a third important factor in addition to the market price of eggs and the premium paid for hatching eggs.

Table 31 shows average prices paid for eggs by hatcheries. These prices, as calculated from the reports submitted by 683 hatcheries, indicate a wide variation from one region to another in the level of market egg prices and premiums paid for hatching eggs. As a general rule the average egg cost per 100 chicks in a region tends to be high when the premium paid for eggs is high, and low when the premium is low. The figures in the last column, on average egg cost per 100 chicks, indicate how the egg cost per chick is increased by

taking into consideration the hatchability of the eggs.

Table 31.—Premiums paid for hatching eggs and average egg cost per 100 chicks in 1934

[By 10 regions]

[DJ To togrous]							
Region	Average price paid, not includ- ing premium		Average premium paid		Average price paid by hatch-		
	Dozen	Per 100	Dozen	Per 100	ery per 100 eggs	chicks	
1 2 3 4 4 5 6 6 7 7 8 8	\$0. 179	\$1. 49 . 97 1. 58 1. 09 1. 93 1. 43 1. 37 1. 18 1. 07 1. 29	\$0. 121 .076 .098 .073 .128 .116 .076 .074 .064	\$1. 01 .63 .82 .61 1. 07 .97 .63 .62 .53 .61	\$2.50 1.60 2.40 1.70 3.00 2.40 2.00 1.80 1.60 1.90	\$3. 87 2. 55 3. 68 2. 83 5. 14 3. 93 3. 15 2. 73 2. 95 3. 20	
All regions	. 178	1. 48	. 086	.72	2. 20	3. 55	

Since the variation in hatchability from region to region was not very great, the effect of hatchability on variations in egg costs per 100 chicks from one region to another was not as great as that of the level of market egg prices or of premiums paid. In the New England States and New York (region 5), for instance, market egg prices were much higher than in any other section of the country and therefore the egg cost per 100 chicks was also higher than the premium alone would indicate. In the South Central States (region 2) the level of market egg prices was lower than in any other region, hence the average egg cost per 100 chicks was lower in this region than in regions 4, 7, 8, 9, and 10, where the average premium paid for hatching eggs was just as low or lower than in region 2.

The significance of egg cost as a factor affecting the total cost of hatching chicks can be shown by a scatter diagram (figure 9) in which the relationship between the egg cost per 100 chicks hatched and the

RELATION BETWEEN EGG COST PER 100 CHICKS AND TOTAL COST OF HATCHING 100 CHICKS, BY REGIONS*

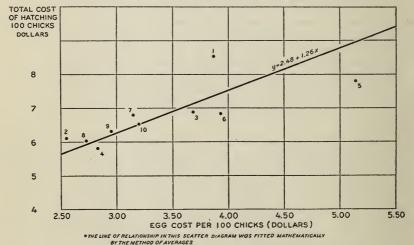


FIGURE 9.—The relation between average egg costs per 100 chicks and the total cost of hatching 100 chicks, 1934. Each dot represents 1 of the 10 regions.

total cost of hatching 100 chicks is graphically represented. In this scatter diagram, each dot represents a region and the number of the region is shown beside the dot. The egg cost per 100 chicks is measured on the horizontal scale and the total cost per 100 chicks is measured on the vertical scale. The sloping line represents the relationship between these two variables.

If the egg cost per 100 chicks were the only factor influencing the cost of chicks, every dot would fall on the diagonal line in the scatter diagram (fig. 9). It is not surprising, of course, that the dots do not fall right on the line of relationship. Deviations from the line are due to such factors influencing chick cost as labor costs and other items.

For example, the dot representing region 1 (Pacific coast and far Western States) indicates a much higher cost than would be expected from the egg cost per 100 chicks, considering the line of relationship. This is due to the fact that labor costs as well as all other costs were

higher in region 1 than in any other region. On the other hand, the dot representing region 5 (New York and the New England States), where total hatching cost was second highest in the country, nevertheless indicates a lower cost than one would expect, considering only the egg cost per 100 chicks in this region. This deviation is explained by the fact that region 5, because of the several peculiarities of the hatchery industry there, had the lowest labor cost in the country. The relatively nonvariable costs there were also the lowest, while all the other costs were just about average. The deviations of the dots representing some of the other regions can similarly be satisfactorily accounted for.

Figure 9 shows the relationship between egg cost and total hatching cost, by regions, without, however, considering such differences as may have existed in any one region among the several capacity groups.

Table 32 is presented to illustrate such differences.

Table 32.—Cost of hatching 100 chicks and egg cost per 100 chicks in 1934

[By 10 regions and capacity classes]

REGION 1.—CALIFORNIA, OREGON, WASHINGTON, IDAHO, NEVADA, ARIZONA, UTAH, WYOMING, AND MONTANA

Capacity group	Cost per 100 chicks	Egg cost per 100 chicks	Percent egg cost is of total cost	chicks not including egg cost					
Under 10,000 10,000 to 24,999 25,000 to 39,999 40,000 to 59,999 100,000 to 199,999 100,000 to 199,999 200,000 to 499,999	6. 92 8. 27 7. 33 8. 50	\$3, 68 4, 05 3, 79 3, 97 4, 31 4, 83 3, 63	53. 6 54. 1 54. 8 48. 0 58. 8 56. 8 44. 2	\$3. 19 3. 43 3. 13 4. 30 3. 02 3. 67 4. 58					
All capacity groups	7. 80	4.06	52. 1	3. 74					
REGION 2.—NEW MEXICO, TEXAS, OKLA	нома, ан	RKANSAS,	AND LOU	ISIANA					
Under 10,000_ 10,000 to 24,999_ 25,000 to 39,999_ 40,000 to 59,999_ 60,000 to 99,999_	6. 41 5. 88 5. 76	\$2, 47 2, 73 2, 70 2, 41 2, 35	40. 5 42. 6 45. 9 41. 8 34. 4	\$3, 63 3, 68 3, 18 3, 35 4, 49					
All capacity groups	6. 11	2, 55	41. 7	3, 56					
REGION 3.—KENTUCKY, TENNESSEE, NO GEORGIA, ALABAMA, MISSI	RTH CAF	ROLINA, S	SOUTH CA	AROLINA,					
Under 10,000	\$7. 24 7. 09	\$3.69 3.65	51. 0 51. 5	\$3. 55 3. 44					
25,000 to 39,999 40,000 to 59,999	6. 42	3.59 3.95	55. 9 54. 5	2.83 3.30					
All capacity groups	6.88	3.68	53. 5	3, 20					
REGION 4.—NORTH DAKOTA, SOUTH DAKOTA, NEBRASKA, KANSAS, AND COLORADO									
Under 10,000 10,000 to 24,999 25,000 to 39,999 40,000 to 59,999 60,000 to 99,999 100,000 to 199,999	6. 00 5. 93 5. 81	\$2.91 2.81 2.72 2.82 3.04 2.47	46. 7 45. 5 45. 3 47. 6 52. 3 46. 1	\$3. 32 3. 36 3. 28 3. 11 2. 77 2. 89					
All capacity groups	5. 82	2.83	48.6	2. 99					

Table 32.—Cost of hatching 100 chicks and egg cost per 100 chicks in 1934—Contd.

REGION 5.—MAINE, MASSACHUSETTS, VERMONT, NEW HAMPSHIRE, RHODE ISLAND, CONNECTICUT, AND NEW YORK

chicks chicks total aget inc	t per 100 leks not cluding gg cost \$3.86
10,000 to 24,999	3. 40 3. 30 5. 01 3. 66 3. 75
REGION 6.—DELAWARE, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA, DISTRICT OF COLU VIRGINIA, MARYLAND AND WEST VIRGINIA Under 10,000	
Under 10,000 \$6.39 \$3.56 55.7 10,000 to 24,999 6.51 3.60 55.3 25,000 to 39,999 56.52 3.63 55.7	MBIA,
10,000 to 24,999	
100,000 to 199,999 7. 38 4. 40 59. 6	\$2. 83 2. 91 2. 89 2. 78 2. 98
All capacity groups 6.83 3.93 57.5	2. 90
REGION 7-OHIO	
Under 10,000 \$6.34 \$3.22 50.8 10,000 to 24,999 6.69 3.27 48.9 25,000 to 39,999 6.27 3.21 51.2 40,000 to 59,999 7.06 3.31 46.9 60,000 to 99,999 7.49 3.53 47.1 100,000 to 199,999 6.19 3.26 52.7 200,000 to 499,999 6.84 2.96 43.3	\$3. 12 3. 42 3. 06 3. 75 3. 96 2. 93 3. 88
All capacity groups 6.80 3.15 46.3	3. 65
REGION 8—INDIANA AND ILLINOIS	
Under 10,000 \$5.84 \$2.80 47.9 10,000 to 24,999 5.61 2.75 49.0 25,000 to 39,999 5.30 3.04 57.4 40,000 to 59,999 6.51 3.23 49.6 60,000 to 99,999 7.08 3.15 44.5 100,000 to 199,999 5.94 2.53 42.6 200,000 to 499,999 5.99 2.48 41.4	\$3. 04 2. 86 2. 26 3. 28 3. 93 3. 41 3. 51
All capacity groups 6. 03 2. 73 45. 3	3. 30
REGION 9.—IOWA AND MISSOURI	
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	\$2, 91 3, 33 3, 73 2, 57 3, 00 3, 77
All capacity groups 6. 32 2. 89 45. 7	3. 43
REGION 10.—MINNESOTA, WISCONSIN, AND MICHIGAN	
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	\$2.86 3.10 3.77 4.25 2.97
All capacity groups	3. 36

Average figures for 108 hatcheries in region 1 showed a slight indication that costs were higher for large hatcheries than for small ones, although the tendency for costs to increase as the size of hatcheries increased was not regular. Hatcheries with a capacity of less than 10,000 eggs had the lowest cost, and hatcheries with capacities from 100,000 to 200,000 had the highest cost. The egg cost showed a wide variation from one size group of hatcheries to another. These variations, however, did not appear to be related to the size of the hatcheries.

The average costs for region 2 were based on reports from 52 hatcheries. There did not appear to be any significant relationship between costs per hundred chicks and the size of hatcheries. In this region costs were generally much lower than in region 1, and the costs in one capacity group as compared to another did not show the

extreme variations noticed in region 1.

Average costs for region 3 were based on reports from 48 hatcheries. No hatchery in this group had a capacity greater than 60,000. In the South, hatcheries generally are much smaller than in other regions. There did not appear to be much relationship between costs and the size of hatcheries here. Egg costs in this region were in all cases higher

than in the South Central States.

than in most of the other regions.

The 55 hatcheries reporting in region 4 showed the lowest hatching costs in the country. In this region there appeared to be a distinct tendency for costs to decrease as the size of the hatcheries increased. This tendency was not due to the egg cost but to the other elements of cost which showed a similar tendency to decrease as the size of the hatcheries increased. One of the main reasons for the lower hatching costs in this region was that average egg costs were considerably lower

Reports from the 66 hatcheries in region 5 indicated that total costs were higher here than in any other region. This was due to extremely high cost of eggs. The costs in this region for hatcheries of different sizes showed more variation than in any other region. This variation, however, showed no consistent relationship to the size of the hatcheries. The highest cost in this region was reported by hatcheries with capacities from 25,000 to 40,000, and the lowest cost by hatcheries with capacities from 60,000 to 100,000. Apparently in the New England region and New York the larger hatcheries differ considerably from the smaller hatcheries in the character of their business.

Reports from 64 hatcheries were used in the summary of costs for region 6. There appeared to be a tendency for costs to increase to a slight extent as the size of hatcheries increased. This tendency appeared to be due almost entirely to the fact that egg costs per 100 chicks increased as the size of the hatcheries increased. Costs of hatcheries with a capacity up to 60,000 were quite uniform. However, the hatcheries in the largest capacity group showed a considerably higher cost than smaller hatcheries, which was accounted

for by higher egg costs.

Average figures for 72 hatcheries in Ohio (region 7) indicated that hatching costs showed only a moderate variation from one capacity group to another. There did not appear to be any significant relationship between the cost of hatching and the size of the hatchery.

Hatching costs reported by the 66 hatcheries in region 8 were the second lowest in the country. There was considerable variation in

costs from one capacity group to another, but again the variation did not appear to be related to the size of hatcheries. The egg costs were generally very low and particularly in the case of hatcheries with

more than 100,000 capacity.

Average cost figures for 92 hatcheries in region 9, as in a good many of the other regions, showed quite a bit of variation from one capacity group to another, but this variation similarly could not be related to the size of the hatcheries. The highest egg cost was shown by

hatcheries with capacities from 25,000 to 60,000.

Reports from 53 hatcheries in region 10 indicated that the hatcheries in the smallest capacity group had the lowest costs and that hatcheries with capacities from 40,000 to 60,000 had the highest cost. The largest hatcheries in this region, however, showed a considerably lower cost than the cost shown by hatcheries with capacities from 25,000 to 60,000. There was, therefore, no logical relation between costs and the size of hatcheries. The egg costs for hatcheries of

different sizes appeared to be quite uniform.

The figures on the cost of hatching shown in this table differ in some details from the cost figures previously shown. Whereas all previous cost figures were based on reports received from 683 hatcheries, these figures are based on reports of only 676 hatcheries. The reports from seven of the largest hatcheries were excluded in the calculation of the cost figures shown here. It was necessary to exclude the reports of these seven large hatcheries because otherwise some of the averages shown in these tables would have to be based only on reports from one or two hatcheries. With these seven hatcheries excluded, however, no average here presented is based on fewer than three reports. The exclusion of the seven large hatcheries accounts for the differences in the cost figures as here given from the ones previously presented.

Regions 1 and 6 showed a decided tendency for costs to increase as the size of hatcheries increased. In region 6, this appeared to be due to the fact that egg costs increased with the size of hatcheries, but this

was not true in the case of region 1.

Region 4 was the only one where the tendency was pronounced for costs to decrease as the size of the hatcheries increased. In all of the other regions, there did not appear to be any consistent relationship between hatching cost and the size of hatcheries. In some instances, small hatcheries had the highest cost; in other instances, large hatcheries had the highest cost; and in several instances, middle-sized hatcheries had the highest cost.

As far as egg cost is concerned, it appears that the variation from one capacity group to another within any one region was never very great. However, variation in egg cost from region to region was considerable. All other costs, on the other hand, showed a tendency to vary to a greater extent from capacity group to capacity group in any

one region than from one region to another.

A METHOD OF ESTIMATING THE COST OF PRODUCING CHICKS

In many instances, the smaller hatcheries do not keep adequate records and are unable to determine their cost of producing chicks. All hatcheries, however, should know how much they paid for their hatching eggs and how many chicks were hatched from these eggs.

With such information, every hatchery is in a position to know fairly

accurately its egg cost per hundred chicks.

The cost of eggs can be easily determined by multiplying the price paid per dozen for hatching eggs by 8.3 to get the price per hundred eggs. If the price of hatching eggs, for example, is 30 cents per dozen, the price per hundred will be 30 cents × 8.3, or \$2.49. \$2.49 per hundred eggs, however, does not represent the egg cost of hatching 100 chicks, because on a commercial basis not all of the eggs set will hatch into salable chicks. Let us furthermore suppose that for every hundred eggs set only 60 salable chicks are hatched. cost of a hundred eggs, therefore, must be adjusted by the percentage of hatchability which, in this case, is 60 percent. To do this, the cost of a hundred eggs, which in this case is \$2.49, must be divided by 0.60 in order to arrive at the actual egg cost per hundred chicks. Dividing \$2.49 by 0.60, we get an egg cost of \$4.15 per hundred chicks.

Now the problem still remains to determine what are all other costs in addition to the egg cost. Of course, even many of the small hatcheries have some expense records from which they can estimate their costs. It is essential, however, that such items as depreciation, wages for family labor, and rent on privately owned property be included along with the more obvious expenses. On the other hand, in those cases where the hatcheryman also custom hatches and broods chicks, it is important to make a proportionate allowance for expenses in-

curred in connection with such operations. 12

Too many hatcheries, however, keep such inadequate records that they are not in a position to know what their other costs are. hatcheries may find table 33 very helpful. This table shows the egg cost per hundred chicks expressed as a percentage of total cost. These averages were computed from the cost records of many hatcheries of different sizes located in the several regions.

Table 33.—Cost of eggs per 100 chicks hatched in 1934—expressed as a percentage of the total cost

			Cap	acity gr	oup	
Re- gions	States comprising the region	Under 10,000	10,000 to 24,999	25,000 to 39,999	40,000 to 59,999	60,000 to 99,999
1	California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona,					
	Utah, Wyoming, Montana	53. 6	54. 1	54. 8	48.0	58, 8
2	New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana	40.5	42.6	45. 9	41.8	34. 4
3	Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina,					
	Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida	51.0	51. 5	55. 9	54. 5	
4	North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado	46.7	45. 5	45.3	47.8	52.3
5	Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode					
	Island, Connecticut, New York	54. 9	59. 3	69.3	46. 4	50.7
6	Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, District of Columbia,		** 0			
_	Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia	55. 7	55. 3	55. 7	57. 9	
7	Ohio	50.8	48. 9	51, 2	46. 9	47. 1
8	Indiana, Illinois	47. 9	49.0	57.4	49.6	44. 5

[By 10 regions]

Suppose that the hatchery referred to in our illustration is located in the State of Alabama and has a setting capacity of 12,000 eggs.

Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan----

Iowa, Missouri

¹² Method explained in section on Cost of Custom Hatching.

It has already been determined that its egg cost is \$4.15 per hundred chicks.

Turning to table 33, we find that Alabama is in region 3, and that the percentage of egg cost to total cost for hatcheries with capacities of from 10,000 to 25,000 is shown in the second column. The egg cost in this instance is 51.5 percent of total cost. Therefore \$4.15 represents approximately 51.5 percent of the total cost of hatching in the case of this hatchery. In order to arrive at the total cost, it is necessary, then, to divide \$4.15 by 0.515, which will give us an estimated total cost of \$8.06.¹³

To this figure, the hatcheryman should, of course, add a reasonable

allowance for profit.

It must be realized, however, that at best such an estimate can only be approximately correct. No doubt it is much better than mere guesswork, but it is indeed a poor substitute for carefully kept records.

COST OF CUSTOM HATCHING

Many hatcheries, in addition to regular commercial hatching, also do a considerable amount of custom hatching for hire. This in effect amounts to renting the incubator equipment and the technical services to poultry producers who have their own eggs and who desire to have these eggs hatched. As a rule, the hatcheryman assumes no responsibility beyond taking the eggs delivered to him by the customer, placing them in the incubator, managing the incubator during the period of incubation, and returning to the customer the chicks hatched from the eggs delivered.

Such operations by the hatchery necessarily involve certain costs, but do not involve other costs which are chargeable only to commercial hatching. A hatchery doing both commercial and custom hatching must apportion its costs in some equitable manner between the com-

mercial and custom hatching phases of its business.

In determining the percentage of costs which should be charged against custom hatching operations, it is necessary in the first place to deduct from total cost, in the case of a particular hatchery, such items as may have nothing to do with custom hatching. The deducted items usually include the cost of eggs, the cost of chick replacements, flock improvement, chick advertisements, and delivery expenses. If the custom-hatched chicks are delivered to the owners, it is then, of course, necessary to consider part of the delivery expenses as a part of custom hatching costs.

When these items are deducted from total costs, the remaining costs, as a rule, represent labor and overhead items. A certain percentage of these labor and overhead expenses must be charged against custom hatching. This is the percentage that eggs set for custom hatching is to the total number of eggs set. This percentage should be applied to the expense items chargeable against custom hatching, and the

amount of such expense so determined.

Let us take, for example, a small typical hatchery with total costs for the year of \$510. Like many others, this hatchery, in addition to hatching chicks both commercially and for custom hire, also deals

¹³ This procedure can, of course, be repeated for any hatchery. For instance, a hatchery located in Connecticut, which pays 42 cents for eggs and has a 58-percent hatchability, would have an egg cost of \$6.02 per hundred chicks, and, assuming that this hatchery had a capacity of only 9,000 eggs, its total cost would be \$10.97 per hundred chicks.

in poultry supplies. Ten dollars out of the total \$510, we will say, represents the cost of such supplies, and therefore should be subtracted from the total at the beginning. The remaining \$500 represents the total costs involved in the hatching of chicks. Of this sum, the cost of eggs represents \$220, and all other expenses which are chargeable only against commercial hatching add up to \$30 more. This means that \$250 must be deducted from the total hatching costs before any consideration is given to custom hatching. The remaining \$250 represents primarily labor and overhead costs and must be apportioned between custom and commercial hatching.

Let us say that this hatchery has set 10,000 eggs altogether during the hatching season, and that 2,000, or 20 percent of this amount, were set for custom hatching. We will then apply this 20 percent to the \$250, which is that portion of expenses a part of which is chargeable against custom hatching, and this will give us \$50 which should be charged against the 2,000 eggs set for custom hatching. This makes

the cost of custom hatching \$2.50 per hundred eggs set.

Table 34, which shows the cost of custom hatching for hatcheries by regions, and table 35, which gives the same data for hatcheries of different sizes, were compiled from records of individual hatcheries. The figures presented are simple averages of individual costs of custom hatching. They are not weighted, and this, of course, carries with it an implied assumption that no single cost figure computed from the records of any one hatchery carries more importance than other cost figures computed from records of other hatcheries.

Table 34.—Average cost of custom hatching per 100 chicks in 1934
[By 10 regions]

Region	Average custom hatching cost per 100 chicks	Ranges with- in which the costs of ap- proximately 2% of the re- porting hatcheries fall	Region	Average custom hatching cost per 100 chicks	Ranges with- in which the costs of ap- proximately 2/3 of the re- porting hatcheries fall
1	\$2. 24 2. 44 2. 26 2. 05 2. 18 1. 85	\$1. 24-\$3. 24 1. 67- 3. 21 1. 38- 3. 14 1. 34- 2. 76 1. 29- 3. 07 1. 18- 2. 52	7. 8. 9. 10. All regions	\$2. 01 1. 92 1. 90 2. 02	\$1. 19-\$2. 83 1. 21- 2. 63 1. 23- 2. 57 1. 39- 2. 65 1. 32- 2. 82

For all of the hatcheries included in this report, the cost of custom hatching 100 eggs was, on the average, \$2.07. There was, however, considerable variation in the cost of custom hatching from one hatchery to another. When these costs were calculated for each individual hatchery doing custom hatching, it was found that the costs of approximately two-thirds of the hatcheries varied from \$1.32 to \$2.82 per 100 eggs set. The costs of the remaining one-third were either below \$1.32 or above \$2.82. It is, therefore, important to realize this limitation of the average cost of custom hatching if one is not to be misled by it.

There also appeared to be some variation in the cost of custom hatching from one region to another. The highest costs were found in regions 2 (South Central States), 3 (Southeastern States), and 1 (Pacific coast and far Western States), where labor costs were fairly

high. The lowest costs were in regions 6 (North Atlantic States), 9 (Iowa and Missouri), and 8 (Illinois and Indiana), which had relatively low labor costs. On the other hand, region 5 (New York and the New England States), which had the lowest labor cost in the country, showed a fairly high custom hatching cost. In this connection, it was perhaps important to note that in region 5 not very much custom hatching was done and that the averages as presented for region 5 were based on very few reports.

The widest range of variation in individual costs was found in region 1. Region 10 (Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota) showed the nar-

rowest range of variation.

Table 35.—Average cost of custom hatching per 100 chicks in 1934

[By capacity classes]

Capacity group	Average custom hatching cost per 100 chicks	Ranges with- in which the costs of ap- proximately 3% of the re- porting hatcheries fall	Capacity group	Average custom hatching cost per 100 chicks	Ranges with- in which the costs of ap- proximately 3'3 of the re- porting hatcheries fall
Under 10,000	\$1. 95 2. 07 2. 06 2. 12 2. 11	\$1, 18-\$2, 72 1, 29- 2, 85 1, 37- 2, 75 1, 37- 2, 87 1, 35- 2, 87	100,000 to 199,999	\$2. 07 2. 42 (1) 2. 07	\$1. 48-\$2. 66 1. 90- 2. 94 (1) 1. 32- 2. 82

¹ Sample inadequate.

There was some indication that the largest hatcheries had the highest costs of custom hatching and the smallest hatcheries the lowest costs. However, these costs could not be consistently related to the size of hatcheries. The small hatcheries showed a wider range of variation in individual costs than the large ones.

THE MARGIN OF PROFIT IN THE HATCHERY INDUSTRY

Many hatcheries, in addition to hatching chicks for sale, also engage in a number of supplementary activities. For example, they may do custom hatching or they may deal in hatching eggs, poultry supplies, and feed. It is, therefore, essential to distinguish between profits resulting from complete hatchery operations, including such details as the sale of supplies and feed, and profits which are made only from commercial chick hatching.

Reports received from 683 hatcheries located throughout the country indicate that, on the whole, the 1934 hatching season was rather profitable. Table 36 shows that 600 hatcheries, or 88 percent, reported profits on their operations, while only 83 hatcheries reported

osses

Regions 6, 1, and 4 reported a higher percentage of hatcheries making a profit than any of the other regions, while region 2 reported the lowest percentage of hatcheries making a profit. As far as the size of the hatcheries is concerned, it appears that the greatest percentage of hatcheries making a profit is found in the smallest capacity group, and that the smallest percentage of hatcheries making a profit is found in the capacity group from 60,000 to 100,000.

Table 36.—Percent of 683 hatcheries reporting a profit for the 1934 hatching season
[By 10 regions and capacity classes]

Region	Percent of hatcheries reporting profit	Capacity groups	Percent of hatcheries reporting profit
1	93 75 81 93 85 95 89 89 85 87	Under 10,000	92 87 88 89 72 87 86
All regions	88	All capacity groups	88

¹ Sample not adequate.

PROFIT ON COMPLETE HATCHERY OPERATIONS

An analysis of gross income on complete hatchery operations, which includes income derived from the sale of poultry supplies, feed, and other items, as well as income from hatching chicks, indicates that the average margin of profit on such operations was 15.4 percent for the 1934 season. This means that out of every \$100 received by these hatcheries, on the average, their total expense amounted to \$84.60 and that their profit margin was \$15.40. (Table 37).

Table 37.—Total expense and margin of profit as percentages of gross income from all hatchery operations in 1934 for 683 hatcheries

[By 10 regions]

Region	Gross income from all hatchery operations	Total expense	Margin of profit
1	Percent 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	Percent 88. 6 85. 5 86. 2 80. 5 77. 0	Percent 11. 4 14. 5 13. 8 19. 5 23. 0
5	100 100 100 100 100 100	80. 4 87. 6 86. 3 87. 8 85. 8	19. 6 12. 4 13. 7 12. 2 14. 2
All regions	100	84. 6	15. 4

This margin of profit varied considerably among different regions. It was highest in region 5 and lowest in region 1. The margin of profit was also quite high in regions 6 and 4, and quite low in regions 9 and 7.

There appeared to be some tendency for the margin of profit to decrease as the size of the hatchery increased. This tendency was quite consistent except that the largest capacity group, the sample of which consisted of only 3 hatcheries, showed a somewhat larger margin of profit than the hatcheries with capacities of from 100,000 to 500,000.

It should not, however, be taken for granted that small hatcheries in every case also earned a larger return on their invested capital than the large hatcheries merely because as a rule their margin of profit on

sales was greater.

Table 38.—Total expense and margin of profit as percentages of gross income from all hatchery operations in 1934 for 683 hatcheries

[By capacity classes]

Capacity groups	Gross income from all hatchery operations	Total ex- pense	Margin of profit
TV 1 10 000	Percent	Percent	Percent
Under 10,000	100	75. 8	24, 2
10,000 to 24,999	100	81. 0	19.0
25,000 to 39,999	100	83. 5	16. 5
40,000 to 59,999	100	83. 7	16. 3
60,000 to 99,999	100	84.8	15, 2
100,000 to 199,999	100	87. 9	12. 1
200,000 to 499,999	100	87.7	12. 3
500,000 and over	100	85. 1	14. 9
All capacity groups	100	84. 6	15. 4

Let us consider, for example, two typical hatcheries. Hatchery A is a rather small one, with a capacity of only 8,000 eggs and with a capital investment of \$1,600. Hatchery B is rather large. It has a

capacity of 150,000 and a capital investment of \$18,000.

Hatchery A sold 16,000 chicks during the season at \$9 per hundred, while hatchery B sold 300,000 chicks at the same price. This means that hatchery A sold \$1,440 worth of chicks, and if its other sales amounted to \$160, its gross income from all operations was \$1,600. Hatchery B's income from the sale of chicks was then \$27,000, and if its other sales amounted to \$3,000, its gross income from all operations was \$30,000.

It was shown above that, as a rule, small hatcheries earned a larger margin of profit on sales than large hatcheries. Let us, then, say that hatchery A earned a 20 percent margin of profit on its \$1,600 gross sales, or \$320, and that hatchery B earned only 12 percent on its \$30,000 gross sales, or \$3,600. Now, if the investment of hatchery A is \$1,600 and the profit \$320, its return on invested capital is 20 percent. Hatchery B's investment is \$18,000, and, with a profit of \$3,600, the return on invested capital is also 20 percent.

Therefore, notwithstanding a much smaller margin of profit on sales, the large hatchery's return on invested capital was no smaller

than the return of the small hatchery.

PROFIT FROM COMMERCIAL CHICK HATCHING

The average profit from commercial hatching only, during the 1934 season, disregarding entirely the profit derived from various supplementary activities of the hatcheries, as indicated by the data submitted by 683 hatcheries and shown on table 39, was 15.7 percent of the selling price. In absolute figures, the average profit for all the

hatcheries was \$1.31 per 100 chicks sold.

As in the case of all hatchery operations, so also in the case of commercial hatching only, the hatcheries in region 5 showed a greater average margin of profit than the hatcheries in any other region. The margin of profit was also rather large in region 6. In regions 5 and 6 there are more breeder hatcheries than in any of the other regions. These breeder hatcheries differ considerably in character and type of operation from hatcheries which buy their eggs commercially, and perhaps require larger capital investment, and it is, of course, possible that this fact was to a large extent responsible for a higher margin of profit in these regions.

Table 39.—Selling price, cost of production, and margin of profit per 100 chicks in 1934 for 683 hatcheries

[By 10 regions]

Region	Average	Average	Average	Percent
	selling	cost of	margin of	margin of
	price per	producing	profit per	profit is of
	100 chicks	100 chicks	100 chicks	selling price
1.	\$9.39	\$8. 54	\$0.85	9, 1
	7.40	6. 11	1,29	17, 4
	8.37	6. 88	1.49	17, 8
	7.28	5. 82	1.46	20, 1
	10.12	7. 81	2,31	22, 8
	8.56	6. 83	1.73	20, 2
	7.97	6. 80	1.17	14, 7
	7.15	6. 03	1.12	15, 7
	7.14	6. 31	.83	11, 6
	7.49	6. 53	.96	12, 8
All regions	8.33	7.02	1.31	15. 7

It will also be observed that in region 1, where the selling price of chicks was second highest, the margin of profit was very low during the 1934 season. Profits were also low in regions 9 and 10, which comprise the States of Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan.

Table 40, which shows the margin of profit from commercial chick hatching only, by capacity groups, indicates that there was a definite and consistent tendency for profits to decrease as the size of the

hatcheries increased.

Table 40.—Selling price, cost of production, and margin of profit per 100 chicks in 1934 for 683 hatcheries

[By capacity classes]

Capacity groups	Average	Average	Average	Percent
	selling	cost of	margin of	margin of
	price per	producing	profit per	profit is of
	100 chicks	100 chicks	100 chicks	selling price
Under 10,000 10,000 to 24,999 25,000 to 39,999 40,000 to 59,999 60,000 to 99,999 100,000 to 199,999 200,000 to 499,999 500,000 and over All capacity groups	\$8. 95	\$6. 72	\$2. 23	24. 9
	8. 62	6. 80	1. 82	21. 1
	8. 15	6. 64	1. 51	18. 5
	8. 20	6. 79	1. 41	17. 2
	8. 07	6. 83	1. 24	15. 4
	7. 63	6. 64	. 99	13. 0
	7. 77	6. 82	. 95	12. 2
	9. 85	8. 58	1. 27	12. 9

To summarize, it may be said (1) that the 1934 season was, on the whole, quite profitable with almost nine-tenths of all reporting hatcheries showing a profit on their operations; (2) that smaller hatcheries as a rule showed a larger margin of profit on gross sales but not necessarily a greater return on invested capital; and (3) that regions 5 and 6, where breeder hatcheries predominate, reported a higher margin of profit than any of the other regions, which may be due to the rather peculiar character of their operations.

APPENDIX

EXHIBIT A.—QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE INTERSTATE CHARACTER OF THE HATCHERY INDUSTRY

1. Do you sell chicks to persons living in States other than the one in which
you are located? Yes No (a) If you do, how many chicks did you sell to persons living in States other than the one in which you are located? In 1934 In 1933
than the one in which you are located? In 1034 In 1033
In 1929
(b) List the States to which shipments were made
2. How many salable chicks did you hatch (exclusive of custom hatching)? In 1934 In 1933 In 1929
3. How many chicks did you sell within the State in which you are located? In 1934 In 1933 In 1929
(a) How many were picked up by the customer at your hatchery? In 1934 In 1933 In 1929
(b) How many did you ship to customers located within your own State? In 1934 In 1929
4. Do you buy baby chicks for purpose of resale from hatcheries in States other
than the one in which you are located? Yes No
(a) If you do, how many did you buy from hatcheries in States other than the
one in which you are located? In 1934 In 1933
In 1929
(b) List the States from which such purchases were made
5. Do you buy eggs for the purpose of hatching from persons living in States other than the one in which you are located? Yes No
(a) If you do, how many dozens did you buy? In 1934 In 1929 In 1929
(b) List the States from which such purchases were made
6. Do you sell eggs for hatching purposes to persons living in States other than
the one in which you are located? Yes No
(b) List the States to which shipments were made
(o) Diet the states to make shape made
Name of hatchery
Name of natchery
Street address
City State Signature
Signature

EXHIBIT A-1.—AN ANALYSIS OF REPLIES RECEIVED TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE INTERSTATE CHARACTER OF THE HATCHERY INDUSTRY

[By 20 regions]

Region	Number of question- naires sent out	Number of replies received	Percent of replies received	Number of usable replies received	Percent of usable replies received
1	80 49 75 103 130 143 167 152 120 141 93 125 120	53 45 43 21 15 25 28 35 58 50 58 46 38 21 32 32 32	46. 90 36. 29 30. 71 26. 25 30. 61 33. 33 27. 18 26. 92 40. 56 29. 94 38. 16 38. 33 26. 95 22. 58 25. 60 26. 67 21. 32 27. 88	41 37 37 19 19 17 20 28 50 45 38 35 17 20 27 36 27	36. 28 29. 84 26. 43 23. 75 22. 67 19. 42 21. 54 34. 97 26. 95 29. 61 31. 67 24. 82 18. 28 16. 00 22. 50 18. 27 24. 04
19	87 88 2, 351	17 29 717	19. 54 32. 95 30. 50	25 17 27 595	24. 04 19. 54 30. 68 25. 31

EXHIBIT B.—QUESTIONNAIRE ON COST OF PRODUCING CHICKS

	(Name of firm)	(City)	(State)
	GENER	RAL INFORMATION	
(1) (2)	Number of incubators Number of incubators Number of incubators Premium paid per dozen for b	Make Make Make natching eggs above	Total capacity Total capacity Total capacity e local price
(OPERATING STATEMENT JU	FOR THE YEAR	R JULY 1, 1933, TO
		RECEIPTS	
(3)	Total income from baby chick	ks sold	· \$
	(a) Number of baby chic (b) Number of baby chic delivered	nicks shipped and	
	(c) Total number o	f baby chicks sold	
(4)	(a plus b) Total income from started ch	icks sold	
(5)	(a) Number of started cl Income from sale of eggs (no	hicks sold ot eggs from home	
(-)	flock).		
	(a) Market eggs sold (do (b) Hatching eggs sold ((c) Total income f	dozens) _ Value,	D
	(c) Total income f	rom eggs sold (a	
(6)	Total income custom hatching	g	
(7)	(a) Number of eggs Total income from	om poultry mer-	
` ′	chandise sold		
(0)	Income from flock improvemed (a) Income from culling (b) Income from blood to	flocks	\$
	(b) Income from blood to (c) Income from sale of	esting	
	(d) Total income fr	om flock improve- plus b plus c)	
(9)	ment work (a Miscellaneous income from h	plus b plus $c)_{}$ atchery operations	
` '	(itemize separately): (a)		
	(b)		φ
	plus $(b)_{}$		
(10)	Total income (incl	uding totals from 3	, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8,

	EXPENSES	
(11)	Eggs purchased:	
	(a) Hatching eggs from own flock:	
	Number of dozens Cost, \$	
	(b) Hatching eggs from other flocks:	
	Number of dozens Cost,	
	(c) Eggs sold as market eggs from other flocks:	
	Number of dozens Cost,	
	(d) Total cost of all organ	
(12)	(d) Total cost of all eggsBaby chicks or started chicks bought for resale.	
(12)	Number Cost,	
(13)	Custom hatching bought. Number of eggs Cost.	
(14)	Custom hatching bought. Number of eggs Cost, Total cost of merchandise purchased	
()		
	Labor: (a) Management Substitute Total number hours Rate per hour during season season substitute the first term of the	
(15)	Labor: hours Rate per hour during season	
	(a) Management \$\$	
	(b) Incubator opera-	
	tors	
	(c) Deliverymen (d) Servicemen	
	(e) Watchman	
	(f) Others	
	(g) Total hatchery labor (a to f inclusive)	
(16)	Office salaries: Average number of people Rate	
` /	per hour or month	
(17)	Office supplies and stationery	
(18)	Telephone and telegraph	
(19)	Postage (not parcel post on chicks sold or bought)	
(20)	Rental charge (on privately owned or on leased property)	
(21)	Insurance	
(22)	Taxes	
(23) (24)	Interest	
(24) (25)	Bad debts Replacements (cash and value of chicks used to adjust claims)_	
(26)	Dues and subscriptions	
(27)	Heat, light, water, and power	
(28)	Printing and other advertising expense	
(29)	Printing and other advertising expense Shipping charges	
(30)	Operating expense of auto and truck as used in business Other travel expense for hatchery	
(31)	Other travel expense for hatchery	
(32)	General repairs (equipment and buildings) Hatchery and shipping supplies (boxes, staples, etc)	
(33)	Hatchery and shipping supplies (boxes, staples, etc)	
(34)	Expense for flock improvement work (not including expense	
	for your poultry farm):	
	(a) Expense of culling flocks Cost, \$	
	(c) Expense of breeding stock in-	
	cluding chicks Cost,	
	(d) Total flock improvement (a plus b plus c)	
(35)	Miscellaneous expense for hatching operations	
(/	(itemize separately):	
	(a)	
	(b)	
	(c) Total miscellaneous expense (a plus b)	
	Total expense (items 11 to 35 inclusive)	
TI	he statements given above are true to the best of my knowledge	and belief
	The second and to the second in the knowledge	Direction.
	(Signature)	
	(Address)	
	(Address)	

EXHIBIT B-1—QUESTIONNAIRE ON COST OF PRODUCING CHICKS

	(Name of firm) (City)	(State)								
	DATANCE CHIPEM									
BALANCE SHEET										
	(1) As of July 1, 1933									
	ASSETS									
(0)										
(2)	Cash on hand and in bank to hatchery account Notes and accounts receivable	\$								
(4)	Inventories:									
	Eggs and chicks\$									
	Started chicks									
	MerchandiseSupplies									
(5)	Total inventoriesValue of securities (at par or market price, whichever is lower)_									
(5)	Land									
(7)	Land									
` ′	Hatchery buildings \$ \$									
	Brooder buildings									
	Hatchery equipment Brooder equipment									
	Delivery equipment									
	Office equipment									
	Total buildings and equipment									
(8)	Other assets: (itemize separately)									
	Total assets									
	LIABILITIES									
(9)	Accounts payable									
(10)	Notes payable—banks									
(11) (12)	Notes payable—equipment									
(12) (13)	Other notes and mortgagesAccrued interest payable									
(14)	Accrued taxes									
(15)	Other liabilities: (itemize separately)									
(16)	Net worth:									
	Capital \$									
	Surplus									
	Total net worth									
(17)	Total liabilities plus net worth									
Rem	arks									
	The statements given above are true to the best of my knowledge	and belief								
	and statements given above are true to the sest of my knowledge	and benef								
	(Signature)									
	(OIBERTALO)									
	(Address)									

 $^{^{1}\,\}mbox{H}$ buildings were constructed and equipment bought at different times, designate exact time and cost under remarks.

EXHIBIT B-2—QUESTIONNAIRE ON COST OF PRODUCING CHICKS

	(Name of firm)	(City)		(State)
	BALANCE SE	HEET		
	(1) As of June 3	0, 1934		
	ASSETS			
(2)	Cash on hand and in bank to hatchery	account		\$
(3)	Notes and accounts receivableInventories:			
(4)	Eggs and chicks		8	
	Started chicks Merchandise			
	Supplies			
	Total inventories			
(5)	Value of securities (at par or market price	ce. whichever i	s lower)	
(6)	Land			
(7)	Buildings and equipment: Description Hatchery buildings	Date acquired		
	Brooder buildings			
	Hatchery equipment			
	Brooder equipment Delivery equipment			
	Office equipment			
	Total buildings and equipment_			
(8)	Other assets: (itemize separately)			
	Total assets			
	LIABILITIE	s		
(9)	Accounts payable			
10)	Notes payable—banks Notes payable—equipment			
11)	Notes payable—equipment			
13)	Other notes and mortgagesAccrued interest payable			
14)	Accrued taxesOther liabilities: (itemize separately)			
19)	Other habilities: (itemize separately)			
(1.0)				
16)	Net worth: Capital \$\$			
	Surplus	_		
17)	Total net worth Total liabilities plus net worth			
Rem	arks:			
. -				
	The statements given above are true to t	the best of my	knowledge	and belief.
		4	(Signature)	-
			(Address)	
1 If	buildings were constructed and equipment bought a	t different times, d	esignate exact	time and cost

under Remarks.

EXHIBIT B-3—AN ANALYSIS OF REPLIES RECEIVED TO THE QUESTIONNAIRES ON COST OF PRODUCING CHICKS

[By 10 regions]

Region	Number of hatch- eries on mailing list	Replies to ques- tion- naire	Percent of re- plies to number of hatch- eries	Reports used	Percent of re- ports used to replies	Percent of re- ports used to names on list
1	1, 185 952 646 1, 204 1, 401 1, 273 831 1, 209 1, 329 1, 375	517 337 259 362 529 422 260 347 466 366	43. 6 35. 4 40. 1 30. 1 37. 8 33. 2 31. 3 28. 7 35. 1 26. 6	110 52 48 55 68 64 72 66 93 55	21. 3 15. 4 18. 5 15. 2 13. 0 15. 2 27. 7 19. 0 20. 0 15. 0	9. 3 5. 5 7. 4 4. 6 4. 9 5. 0 8. 7 5. 5 7. 0 4. 0
Total	11, 405	3, 865	33. 9	683	17. 7	6.0

EXHIBIT B-4—AN ANALYSIS OF REPLIES RECEIVED TO THE QUESTIONNAIRES ON COST OF PRODUCING CHICKS

[By capacity groups]

Capacity groups	Number of hatch- eries on mailing list	Replies to ques- tion- naire	Percent of re- plies to number of hatch- eries	Reports used	Percent of re- ports used to replies	Percent of re- ports used to names on list
Under 10,000 10,000 to 24,999 25,000 to 39,999 40,000 to 59,999 60,000 to 99,999 100,000 to 199,999 200,000 to 499,999 500,000 and over	4, 934 3, 315 1, 274 895 576 294 102 15	2, 009 1, 016 355 212 158 76 34 5	40. 7 30. 6 27. 9 23. 7 27. 4 25. 9 33. 3 33. 3	208 216 99 73 47 23 14 3	10. 4 21. 3 28. 2 34. 4 29. 7 30. 3 41. 2 60. 0	4. 2 6. 5 7. 8 8. 2 8. 2 7. 8 13. 7 20. 0
Total.	11, 405	3, 865	33. 9	683	17. 7	6.0